

The Heinlein Society_



You are cordially invited to join the members of . The Heinlein Society

at Torcon3, The 61st World Science Fiction Convention, for the inaugural presentation of the annual Heinlein Award for outstanding published works of science fact and fiction that inspire humanity's expansion into space.

The Heinlein Award was established at the request of the late Virginia Heinlein, the author's widow, shortly before her final illness. Robert Anson Heinlein's dream was to see humanity establish itself on the other planets of this solar system and eventually reach the stars, themselves.

Join the members of the Heinlein Award board of judges Greg Bear, Joe Haldeman, Yoji Kondo, Elizabeth Moon, Larry Niven, Jerry Pournelle, Spider Robinson, Stanley Schmidt, Herb Gilliland, and John Hill in this first event honoring a great man's vision and a great lady's dedication to that cause.

Beginning at 6 P.M., sharp! Friday, August 29, 2003

Joe Badali's Italian Ristoranti 156 Front Street West > Toronto, Ontario, Canada (one block east from Torcon3 headquarters) Tickets are \$75 (U.S.) until August 23, 2003

Late Reservations \$100 (U.S.) at the door (15% discount for orders of six or more)

R.S.V.P. with payment in advance payable to:

The Heinlein Society

Attn.: The Heinlein Awards Dinner PO Box 1254

Venice, California 90294-1254

Or, to reserve and pay on-line, go to http://www.heinleinsociety.org/AwardDinner.html before August 24th.



ROBERT A. HEINLEIN MEMORIAL 'PAY IT FORWARD' BLOOD DRIVE

Blood banks save lives, and are utterly dependent on donations by volunteer donors. Robert Heinlein knew this when he helped start SF-con blood drives in 1976.

• A tradition for more than twenty-five years, the Heinlein Memorial "Pay It Forward" Blood Drive is scheduled during World Con, wherever held, both in memory of Robert Heinlein and in accordance with his wishes. SF fans have "paid the debt forward" for almost three decades.

Take a short walk and brief break and be a citizen of the galaxy -- and take home a pin designed expressly by Robert Heinlein, exclusively for the volunteers who choose to



sen of the galaxy -- and take home a pin designed expressly by Robert Heinlein, exclusively for the volunteers who choose to continue this salutary tradition. We cannot offer you signed copies by Ginny Heinlein this year or evermore -- she sailed beyond the sunset to join Robert this past January -- but in her and his memory other authors may be present and, perhaps, offer you one of theirs, as some have done before.

Just as blood supplies are, the supply of premiums may be limited. First donated, first served!

The place, day and time for blood donation will be: MICC room 204 (aka the Summit Room), within the convention center, Saturday, August 30, 2003, from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., (please check the Convention bulletins and program for any last minute changes)

Sponsored and arranged by The Heinlein Society, a non-profit organization dedicated to Heinlein's works and paying the debt forward to future generations, with appreciation to Torcon3 and the Canadian Blood Services for their splendid help and cooperation. We're at www.heinleinsociety.org. Now would be a good time to join us in our efforts.

TORCONS &

IN THIS PROGRESS REPORT

TORCON3 - PR6

TORONTO WORLDCON FINAL PROGRESS REPORT (#6)

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Editorial Note: The text-only versions of PR4 and PR5 were delayed unduly. I sincerely regret the delay and apologise to Torcon's visually-impaired members who were disappointed by the long wait. -Naomi

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SERVICE MARK NOTICE

"World Science Fiction Society", "WSFS", "World Science Fiction Convention", "Worldcon", "NASFIC", and "Hugo Award" are service marks of the World Science Fiction Society, an unincorporated literary society.

Last Memo from the Chair

By the time you receive this, Torcon 3 will be imminent. Yikes! I don't have time to commit thoughts to paper...

If you have not already been doing so and have internet access, I strongly recommend checking our website frequently for last minute information, especially since this is the last progress report. Our website is www.torcon3.on.ca. As chair, I have been supplying the site with brief updates on new website items as well as snippets of information suggested, or requested by people.

I hope you will enjoy yourself while in Toronto. It is a 24-hour city with all sorts of interesting sites to see and events to partake in. After all, there were 2003 reasons used by the bid. For those of you interested in restaurants, TEDA, the Toronto Entertainment District Association, will be assisting our info desk at the con by helping people to find their way around the entertainment district just next to the convention center, and answering restaurant inquiries. As our GoHst of Honour Robert Bloch was fond of Zoos, there is the Toronto Zoo. Other major attractions include the Canadian National Exhibition, the Medieval Fair, and Canada's Wonderland.

Lots of people have been working hard to help bring the 61st Worldcon together. I would like to thank everyone who has helped before, during, and undoubtedly after the con is over. There are people who have offered assistance even though they are unable to attend the con themselves. Thank you to all!

My attentions are now solely focused on the convention. The last convention I attended was Toronto Trek in mid July. People are looking forward to Torcon now. When I chat with folks, they are amazed that I still have my sanity this close out. (Note, there is debate as to whether I was ever sane, having taken this job). Usually I am prepared for most questions, however, recently I have had a number of people ask me an unexpected question: Will I be gafiating after Torcon?

Athena and I, with our little ones, are looking forward to attending cons like we used to, not having to man tables, throw parties, hunt down people to talk with, sway people to attend or volunteer... It will be heaven! We will have our lives back! Our basement! Yeah, right, they are giving us six months before we start doing con running stuff again.

Looking forward to seeing you around Torcon, and cons thereafter.

-Peter Jarvis, Con Chair

Summer in the City

A Quick Look at Events in Toronto

By Sabrina Fried

Toronto is a wonderful city, especially in the summer. In the months between June and September hundreds of events take place in and around the city. If you find while planning your trip that you are going to have a few extra days to spend in Toronto, I recommend arriving in the city a few days early to capitalize on the peak of the summer event season. September 1, the end of Worldcon, is also Labour Day, the traditional end of the summer event season, so most events that do not run year-round will be closed after that date. Below you will find a listing some of the summer events in the city that take place during the months of August and September. It's by no means an extensive list. There isn't enough space in the entire Progress Report for that. Throughout the article, I have quoted pricing information where it has been confirmed for the 2003 season already. The prices are in Canadian dollars and might change as the summer progresses. The first group of events is those that take place within the city of Toronto itself, and can be reached easily and guickly by public transit or car.

The Canadian National Exhibition ("The Ex") Runs daily from August 15 to September 1

The Ex is a 125-year-old tradition located on the Toronto waterfront. With hundreds of rides, games and exhibits on its midway, the Ex is among the largest annual fairs in North America. It's the kind of fair where planners can put "babes-in-arms" on their ticket pricing signs. (Babes-in-Arms are admitted free with purchase of an adult pass, by the way.) The Ex is one of the largest events in Toronto, and attracts well over a million visitors each year. Easily accessible via public transit from the downtown core, the Ex will provide visitors with days worth of fun and excitement. In addition to its midway, the Exhibition grounds house an agricultural fair, an international bazaar and hundreds of shows by local performers ranging from demonstrations of Tai Chi to Skateboarding. Budget at least one or two days to see The Ex. Most of the events take place outdoors, although the international bazaar, food pavilion and some other events do take place in the permanent buildings on site.

http://www.theex.com

(continues next page ...)

Cirque du Soleil at the Ex

Selected Dates in August

If you have never seen the Cirque du Soleil perform, then I doubt I could accurately describe to you the sheer pleasure that is having the opportunity to take in one of their shows. Cirque du Soleil is a troupe of artists from Montreal who have single-handedly redefined the definition of a circus. Their shows feature everything from interpretive dance and song, to gravity defying acrobatics, and stunts. The troupe has established permanent shows in Las Vegas and Orlando. Its travelling shows are active on three continents. As part of an annual tradition, the Cirque du Soleil's distinctive yellow tent will be set up on the Exhibition grounds during the Canadian National Exhibition. This is a must-see show for anyone who manages to secure tickets. Information on dates, times and ticket prices will be posted on the troupe's official website in the next few months.

http://www.cirquedusoleil.com/

The Skydome

Something interesting going on daily, year-round.

The Skydome is Toronto's event stadium. Throughout the year it is home to various concerts and events. Playing in the Skydome, which is located just a walk down the street from the site of Torcon 3, the Toronto Blue Javs have been a fixture of summers in Toronto since 1976. The Jays will have 10 home games during the month of August. Ticket prices range from \$7-60, excluding taxes. Tickets are available online through the Toronto Blue Jays' official website, or at the stadium's box office. Tickets are also available for the August and September home games of the Toronto Argonauts, our Canadian Football League team. Ticket prices for the Argonauts' 2003 season were not finalized before this issue went to print. Tours of the Skydome itself are available daily. The tours cost \$12.50 per person and require approximately one hour. The tour itinerary varies based on what Skydome events are scheduled for the day, but can include tours of the stadium's media room, skyboxes, dressing rooms, and the playing field itself. http://www.skydome.com

The 10th Annual Taste of the Danforth Festival August 8-10

The Danforth is a part of the city that has the reputation of being one of Toronto's most cosmopolitan neighborhoods. It's the community where My Big Fat Greek Wedding was filmed. It is also considered the largest Greek neighborhood in North America. For one weekend in August, the Danforth is closed to road traffic for one of the best food fests in the city. Featuring showcases of Greek music, dancing, theatre and, of course, cuisine, the Taste of the Danforth Festival has something for everyone. Vendors representing the local community sell Greek crafts, clothing, and, you guessed it, food. Admission to the site of the festival is free. http://www.tasteofthedanforth.com



Handicap Services Report

We are pleased to announce a number of services available to our members with special needs. The Torcon Access Lounge will be located in Room 205C in the Convention Centre. We will be providing a number of services there, from scooter pick-up to water for seeing-eye dogs. We invite you to come by anytime during the convention. We're in need of volunteers, and would love to have you help us. If you're interested in volunteering, we are also keeping track of opportunities around the convention. Let us know at

handicapaccess@torcon3.on.ca if you would like to help out, and we'll hook you up with someone who can use your skills!

Physically Handicapped

All our hotels are accessible. For more information, check the Hotel information below. If you have a mobility issue that you need specific information about, please contact us at handicapaccess@torcon3.on.ca.

We are providing rentals of electric scooters. Motorized Scooters will be available for \$50 USD per day OR \$145 USD per 7-day rental. Manual Wheelchairs will be available for \$25 USD per day OR \$68 USD per 7-day rental. We will be offering at-convention pickup in the convention centre, from August 27th (the day before the convention). Please try to book by August 1st to guarantee availability.

To book a scooter online, please visit:

http://www.scootaround.com/rentals/ torcon.htm

Or call 1-888-441-7575, and a representative from ScootAround will be happy to help you.

Visually Handicapped

We are contemplating various things we can possibly do to assist our visually handicapped members. Large print or Braille pocket programs, and other printed material. If you would make use of such items, please contact us at

handicapaccess@torcon3.on.ca.

Torcon is planning on having screen readers available on some of the computers in the Internet lounge. In addition, working with the Royal Bank of Canada, we will have access kits for their Audio Bank Machines. The Access Kit consists of a pair of headphones (standard jack), and information on using the machines on either audio tape or in text format on computer disk. We will also have directions to the nearest Audio Bank Machines in the Access Lounge. The Access Lounge will also have amenities such as a watering station for working dogs. Please contact us if there are any other services that you would like to see at your Worldcon.

Hearing Handicapped

We are exploring options based on what our members need. Please contact us to let us know what your preferences are, so we can better help assist you. We would like to know if you prefer real-time captioning for the big events, such as the Hugo Awards, or if you would prefer American Sign Language interpreters. We are currently hoping to provide transcripts of the GoH speeches to our hearing impaired members. Please ask about this in the Access Lounge.

We are also looking into providing ASL interpreters on an 'as-needed' case, for smaller events. Would this service be of use to you, or will you be providing your own ASL interpreter? Please let us know.

We are planning, at this time, to make sure that all security Rangers are equipped with paper and pens to help you communicate with them. Please let us know if there are any other services that can help make your Worldcon more enjoyable.

Hotel Accessibility Information

The Fairmont Royal York Hotel

- Main entrance: Not accessible. Use East entrance that has an elevator to the lobby level.
- Restrooms: Accessible
- Signage: No Braille inside elevators, but numbers and letters are raised.
- Sleeping rooms: 15 rooms have been designed for wheelchair accessibility and an additional eight rooms have been partially modified for access. Visual fire alarms are installed in the bedrooms.
- Meeting rooms: Accessible; wheelchair lift is available to the Imperial Room.

- Health Club: Wheelchair lift to the Health Club cannot accommodate a scooter.
- Restaurants: Accessible
- Aids: Assistive listening device kits are available; bath benches are available.

(more accessibility info continues next page...)

Crowne Plaza Toronto Centre Hotel

- Main entrance: Accessible
- Restrooms: Accessible
- Braille signage: No Braille on elevator panels. There are raised numbers outside elevators to indicate the floor.
- Sleeping rooms: 10 rooms are designed for wheelchair accessibility: eight with king beds and two with two double beds. All accessible rooms are near the elevator. No roll-in showers.
- Meeting rooms: Accessible
- Restaurants: Accessible
- Aids: Assistive listening device kits are available; shower benches are available.

The Holiday Inn on King

- Main entrance: Accessible
- Restrooms: Accessible
- Braille signage: Raised and Braille lettering in all elevators and guest rooms. Braille menus in the Canadian Bar & Grill restaurant and through room service. Braille inroom Guest Services Directory (on request)
- Sleeping rooms: 4 rooms are designed for wheelchair accessibility. All have roll in showers. Visual Fire Alarm indicator and visual smoke alarm
- Meeting rooms: Accessible
- Restaurants: Accessible
- Aids: Assistive listening device kits are available; shower benches are available.

Renaissance Toronto Hotel at Skydome

- Main entrance: Accessible.
- Restrooms: Accessible
- Signage: No Braille inside elevators, but numbers and letters are raised.

The Renaissance at Skydome has not, at this time, provided other information on their accessibility.



Food, Glorious Food!

by Marah Searle

One of the best things about Toronto is our restaurants. www.toronto.com lists 75 different cuisines, from African to Vietnamese. And best of all, many of them are represented in the hundreds of restaurants within easy walking distance of the Metro Convention Centre, and even more are a longer walk or short transit or taxi ride away.

If you're short of time or cash, you can grab a hot dog from a vendor right outside the Convention Centre. A bit more time and money, but not much more? Tim Horton's is a block from the Royal York, and offers soup, sandwiches, doughnuts, and Canada's most popular coffee (not the best coffee, just the most popular. The Second Cup, also in the area, has much better coffee). They are also open 24 hours. There are several food courts within walking distance. The ones in the business district may close over the weekend, though. The fast food places in Union Station, which is attached to the Royal York, are open on Sundays.

If you want something nicer, but still casual, there is Casey's, The Armadillo, Joe Bidali's (Italian), Lone Star Café, East Side Mario's, and Planet Hollywood.

Nicer (i.e. more expensive) places include 360 Restaurant (at the top of the CN Tower), and Canyon Creek Chop House.

That's a sampling of some of the restaurants within easy walking distance of the Convention Centre. If you have time for a longer walk, or a short transit or taxi ride, then the possibilities are almost endless (at least, you will run out of time here long before you run out of restaurants to try):

Ruth's Chris Steak House, Bardi's Steak House, and II Fornello, just to name a few. There are many, many more, far too many to list.

If you like authentic Chinese food, you absolutely have to go to Chinatown. Chinatown (there are several different Chinatowns in Toronto, this one is the original) is centered around the intersection of Dundas and Spadina, and is about a mile from the Convention Centre. It is easily accessible by streetcar. When you get there, you will be faced with block after block of Chinese restaurants. Fortunately, all of them are good, although some are better than others. My favorites include A Taste of China and King's Noodle, on the west side of Spadina, north of Dundas. Swatow, on the east side of Spadina, is extremely popular and also a good choice.

There are also some excellent Vietnamese places, as well as Thai and Indian.

So, wherever your budget and palate lead you, rest assured that you will be well fed while you are here.

Toronto City Centre Airport

Although International flights all land at Lester B Pearson International Airport, Air Canada Jazz also flies directly into Toronto City Centre airport.

Toronto City Centre Airport is 8 Minutes from the Convention Centre.

Air Canada Jazz offers an Airport Shuttle Bus service to/from the The Fairmont Royal York Hotel (Union Station) for passengers of Air Canada Jazz. The Airport Shuttle Bus will be available outside the terminal upon your flight's arrival.

Taxi service is available for approx. \$5.00



Child Care At Torcon 3

by Lance Sibley, Member Services

Torcon 3 is currently working with Umbrella Central Day Care Services to provide a Child Care facility for our members. At this time, we do not know exactly how much members will be charged for this service, as it will depend upon how many staff will be required, though we are currently estimating that it will be approximately \$50 (Cdn) per day. Please contact us at

ChildCare@torcon3.on.ca to let us know whether you will be wanting to make use of the service; this will give us a better idea of how many staff will be needed.

Please note that Torcon will not be accepting responsibility for children still in diapers. However, Umbrella does provide a changing table which parents can make use of during the convention free of charge.

We are also in the process of determining what the maximum age will be for a child who is eligible to be placed in Child Care. Please watch the website at http://www.torcon3.on.ca for further updates.

Workshop for Young Writers on Friday

Torcon will be presenting the Young Writer's Workshop on Friday afternoon. This will serve as an introduction to the adult writer's workshops (older teens are encouraged to do both). Pro writers will sit with teens and discuss the young writers' stories, which have been submitted electronically beforehand. Submissions must be genre (SF/ F), complete short stories (no novel excerpts), original, and under 5000 words. No fan fiction. No poetry. Email submissions to young-writers@torcon3.on.ca.

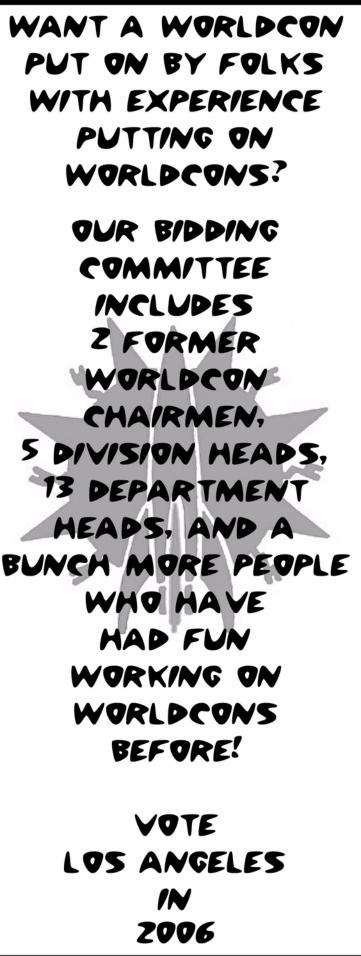
Arriving by Air?

Toronto's only international airport is Lester B. Pearson International Airport (LBPIA, airport code YYZ). It is located on Toronto's western border, about a 30-minute drive from our downtown hotels. The best way to get to your hotel is the Airport Express bus. It runs between Pearson Airport and each of our convention hotels except the Renaissance SkyDome Hotel.

See the Traveler Info pages on the airport's website at http://www.lbpia.toronto.on.ca/travellerinfo/ for arrival tips, departure tips, special needs passengers, and more.

For more information on border crossings and ground transport, see

http://www.torcon3.on.ca/hotels/gettinghere/index.html



Driving Directions

[Larry Hancock, Treasurer for Torcon3, explains how to get to Torcon in Five Easy Steps --ed.]

1. Boston to Toronto (Approaching from the East)

You have two choices as to how to approach Toronto when driving from Boston. You will probably choose to enter Canada east of Lake Ontario and proceed towards the city on **Highway 401**. The simplest most direct route from Highway 401 to the Royal York convention area is as follows:

As you approach Toronto, you will find that the highway widens and splits into two sets of lanes: collector lanes and express lanes. You can choose either set of lanes, it won't make a difference. You will be looking for the exit for the Don Valley Parkway and Highway 404. Whereas most exits can only be accessed from the collector lanes, because it is a major route, the DVP/ 404 exit is available from both the collector and express lanes. You will want to take the Don Valley Parkway southbound (north of the 401, the DVP changes its name to Highway 404, hence the dual naming of the exit).

Take the DVP southbound as far as you can go. At t he bottom of the DVP you have the choice of exiting to Richmond Street (on the right) or exiting to Lake Shore Boulevard (on the left, a short distance further along) or continuing on the main road (as it curves right and goes up a ramp) to the **Gardiner Expressway**. You want the Gardiner Expressway.

2. Westbound Gardiner Expressway to Royal York

If you are going directly to the Fairmont Royal York, or parking there, you will want the second exit (on the right). This exit is for **Yonge, Bay and York** streets. As you proceed down the ramp, traffic for Yonge Street goes to the right and must go northbound on Yonge Street, whereas traffic for Bay and York Streets goes to the left and merges onto Lakeshore Boulevard which runs right underneath the Gardiner Expressway.

My suggestion is that you take Yonge Street which means bearing to the right as you exit. You can only go North. Proceed to the first stop lights (Front Street), turn left. The first lights you will encounter will be Bay Street. Continue on Front Street. On the right hand side, just past Bay Street, you will come upon the drive way for the Fairmont Royal York Hotel. You can pull in there to unload.

Alternatively, if you exit the Gardiner Expressway at Yonge/Bay/York streets you could exit right, and then keep to the left as you go down the ramp. You then merge onto Lake Shore Boulevard.

Go through the first lights (Yonge Street) and then turn right at the next lights - Bay Street. Go north to the first lights - Front Street, turn left and you are at the **Fairmont Royal York** on the right side. This is more direct than exiting at Yonge Street, but Bay Street is under construction north of Front Street and so you could be backed up and delayed making the left turn onto Front Street

(If you were to continue along Lakeshore Boulevard and turn right onto York Street, then proceed north to Front Street, as soon as you pass Front Street, the west end of the Fairmont Royal York would be on your right, just past the intersection. You could drop off bags and passengers there too, but would have to immediately drive away and park elsewhere. There generally are no hotel staff at that end of the hotel.)

3. Westbound Gardiner to Convention Centre and Other Torcon3 Hotels

If you are approaching from the east, and from the Gardiner Expressway and wanted to head to the convention centre directly, then stay on the Expressway for one more exit. Instead of exiting at Yonge/Bay/York Streets, exit at **Spadina Avenue/Lakeshore Boulevard** - on the right. As you exit, the ramp splits in two - stay to the left for Spadina Avenue (the right takes you onto Lakeshore Boulevard).

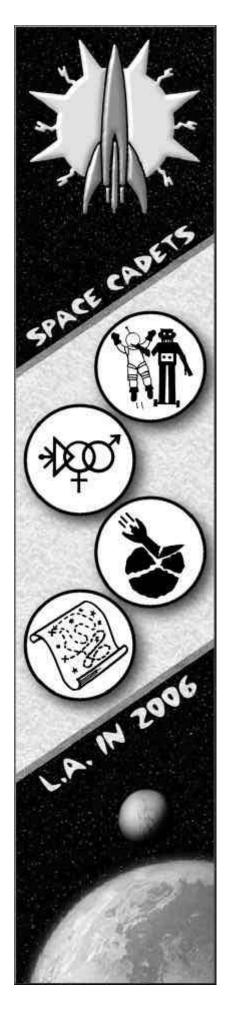
You can only take Spadina northbound from there.

(NOTE: If you want Spadina avenue and you are coming from the East DO NOT exit the Expressway at an exit prior to the Spadina exit. At earlier exits you can get onto Lake Shore Boulevard, and from Lake Shore you can access almost any other street EXCEPT Spadina. Yes, if you are local and familiar with Lake Shore Boulevard there are other ways to maneuver, but for out-of-towners, it's best to assume that coming from the east on the Gardiner you should stay on the Gardiner if you want to get onto Spadina Avenue)

Where were we... Spadina avenue northbound.... proceed a couple of lights north to **Front Street**, turn right and drive east on Front Street. You will pass a couple of stop lights and then on the right you will see the big **Planet Hollywood sign**. That is the west end of the **convention centre**. Continue a couple of hundred feet to reach the main front doors of the convention center and drop off passengers there.

If you were staying at the **Rennai**sance Hotel at Skydome, from Spadina Avenue northbound, you would turn right at the second stoplights (one stoplight before Front Street). Once you have turned right, you hit one stop sign almost immediately, and then the hotel is directly in front of you.

If you were staying at the **Holiday Inn** on King Street, you would stay on Spadina Avenue, continuing north past Front Street until you come to King Street. Turn right and watch for the hotel on the left (north) side of King Street.



LOS ANGELES IN ZOO6

A Bid for the 64th World Science Fiction Convention to be held August 23-27, 2006 in Anaheim (L.A. Area), California

- The Anaheim Convention Center, and the Hilton Anaheim and Anaheim Marriott hotels site of the 1984 and 1996 Worldcons. Locus described them as "An ideal facility for a Worldcon ... The best space I've ever seen."
- The proven track record of the **Southern California Institute for Fan** Interests (SCIFI), Inc., sponsoring organization of L.A.Con II (1984 Worldcon) and L.A.Con III (1996 Worldcon), ConuCopia (1999 NASFiC), Conosaurus (1989 Westercon), ConoZoic (1994 Westercon), and Conagerie (2002 Westercon)
- **A fabulous location**, right across the street from Disneyland and close to beaches, restaurants and many other popular vacation destinations
- A convention near the heart of Los Angeles... the world's largest entertainment industry, home of countless authors, filmmakers, scientists, and other potential guests!

JOIN US FOR THE ADVENTURE OF A LIFETIME!

MEMBERSHIP RATES

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA Pre-Support \$20.00 • Pre-Oppose \$40.00 Pre-Dither \$60.00 • Friends Of The Bid \$75.00 Checks payable to "SCIFI Inc" in US Funds Only

CANADA

Pre-Support \$30.00 • Pre-Oppose \$61.00 Pre-Dither \$91.00 • Friends Of The Bid \$115.00 Checks payable to "Lloyd Penney" in Canadian Funds Only

UNITED KINGDOM

Pre-Support £14.00 • Pre-Oppose £28.00 Pre-Dither £41.00 • Friends Of The Bid £52.00 Checks payable to "John Harold" in UK Funds Only (Additional Currency Rates are available at our table, our party, or on the Los Angeles in 2006 Bid Website!



c/o The Southern California Institute for Fan Interests (SCIFI) Inc. Post Office Box 8442, Van Nuys, California 91409 USA Website: www.scifiinc.org • Email: info@scifiinc.org

> "World Science Fiction Convention" and "Worldcon" are service marks of the World Science Fiction Society, an unincorporated literary society.

4. Buffalo and Niagara Falls to Toronto (Approaching from the Southwest)

Now, if you were to decide to approach Toronto by staying in the US all the way underneath Lake Ontario (for example, if you were going to see Niagara Falls first), you would enter Canada across bridges either at Buffalo/Fort Erie, Niagara Falls/Niagara Falls or Lewiston/ Queenston.

Regardless of where you cross, look for signs that tell you how to get to **Queen Elizabeth Way**, the expressway, known more commonly as the **QEW**.

Take the QEW all the way to Toronto. Eventually you will find that the QEW has become the **Gardiner Express**way. Once you are on the fully elevated portion, the first exit on your right is **Spadina Avenue**. If you wanted to proceed to the **convention centre**, **Skydome Hotel** or **Holiday Inn**, you would exit at Spadina Avenue. You can only go north. Then follow directions above.

If you want to proceed to the **Fairmont Royal York Hotel**, go past the Spadina exit and take the exit for **Yonge/Bay and York streets** instead. As you exit, the ramp splits into two.

If you are going to **Yonge Street**, you go to the left, down a long straight

ramp, merge onto **Lake Shore Bou**levard, and then keep to the left, following the instructions on the overhead signs as to which lanes take you to Yonge Street North. Then follow the instructions above as to how to get to the Fairmont Royal York hotel.

If you are going to **Bay Street**, you bear to the right on the exit ramp. As the ramp spirals, it again splits in two. You want to stay to the right. This will merge you onto **Lake Shore Boule**vard. You want to get over to the left lane so you can turn left onto Bay Street northbound, and then follow the instructions above as to how to get to the Fairmont Royal York hotel.

If you are going to **York Street** you bear to the right on the exit ramp. As the ramp spirals, it again splits in two. You want to stay to the left. This will merge you onto York Street. Proceed north and then follow the instructions above as to how to get to the Fairmont Royal York hotel.

(NOTE: Approaching Toronto from the west on the Gardiner Expressway, if you wish to get off at Yonge, Bay or York Streets, do not exit early at Spadina Avenue. When you exit at Spadina Avenue, you may only proceed north on Spadina. You may not merge into traffic on Lake Shore Boulevard and then proceed to the other streets.)

5. Detroit/Windsor or Sarnia to Toronto (Approaching from the West)

Now, to cover all bases, if anyone is approaching Toronto from the **Detroit/Windsor border crossings**, take **Highway 401 eastbound** to approach Toronto. As you approach the West end of Toronto, look for signs directing you to **Highway 427**. Take **Highway 427 Southbound** to the bottom where you then exit to the left to the QEW. From there, follow the directions above.

If anyone crosses the border at **Port Huron/Sarnia**, take **Highway 402** until you merge with **Highway 401** near **London**, **Ontario**. Then follow the directions above.

Any questions?

-Larry Hancock, Treasurer

And Some Other Means of Transportation...

Get to Torcon By Train

http://www.viarail.com

VIA Rail's Toronto station is Union Station which is connected by tunnel to Fairmont Royal York and by Skywalk to the Metro Toronto Convention Centre and Crowne Plaza Hotel.

Get to Torcon by Bicycle:

http://tbn.on.ca

(You should have already left!)

Get to Torcon By Greyhound Bus

http://www.greyhound.ca

Taxi from the bus terminal should only be approximately \$5 and is your best method to get to Torcon3's convention centre and hotels.

TORONTO COACH TERMINAL 610 BAY STREET TORONTO, ON, M5G 1M5 (416) 594-1010

Where To Park At Torcon

By Lance Sibley, Division Head, Member Services

If you're driving up to Toronto from the States, flying in and renting a car to do some sight-seeing before the convention, or a 905-area commuter wondering what to do with your vehicle during the convention, the Member Services Division has been working to put together information on parking lots within walking distance of the convention facilities.

For those of you who are driving RVs, we have determined that the Renaissance Hotel at SkyDome has underground RV parking for \$18, if you are staying at that facility. There is also space available for RVs at the corner of Adelaide Street and University Avenue. At press time, we do not have the rates available, but we will be obtaining them; keep an eye on the Torcon website for details. We have also contacted the Air Canada Centre (home of the Toronto Maple Leafs and the Toronto Raptors, for those among you who are sports fans) and the Canadian National Exhibition to ask about their parking facilities; at press time, they have not yet responded to our inquiries.

And finally, we are working on a deal with the Toronto Parking Authority to provide a special rate, with in-and-out privileges, for our members at the parking lot underneath City Hall. City Hall is a 20-to-30 minute walk away from the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, at the corner of Bay and Queen Streets.

We have gathered information on 65 more parking lots in the area; see the Torcon website (http://www.torcon3.on.ca/ services/parking.html) for more information, including addresses, hours and rates.

From the Airport to the Convention Centre

AirportExpress Bus to Downtown Toronto

Bus picks up on the Arrivals Level of all terminals. All buses are wheelchair accessible and also have front kneeling doors for easier access. This is a 24 Hour service. Destinations include the downtown bus terminal, as well as several major downtown hotels. Connecting service to other downtown locations is also available for an additional fee.

For more information call Pacific Western Airport Express at

(905) 564-6333 or toll free at (800) 387-6787 or visit the web site www.torontoairportexpress.com.

Taxi and Limousine Rates

Taxi and Limousine rates are flat rate fees. (Taxi - \$42.00 / Limo - \$47.00)

Toronto Transit Commission -City Buses

TTC - 192 Airport Rocket

Provides fully-accessible bus service. Buses stop only at Kipling station, Dundas Street & East Mall Crescent, Terminal 3 (Arrivals Level), and Terminal 2 (Arrivals Level). Service operates from approximately 5:30 a.m. to 12:30 a.m., seven days a week. One-way travel time is approximately 20 minutes.

TTC - 58A (Malton)

Provides all-day service between Lawrence West Station on the Spadina subway and Terminal 2 at Pearson Airport. Service operates from approximately 5:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m., seven days a week. One-way travel time is approximately 45 minutes TTC - 307 Eglinton West (Blue Night)

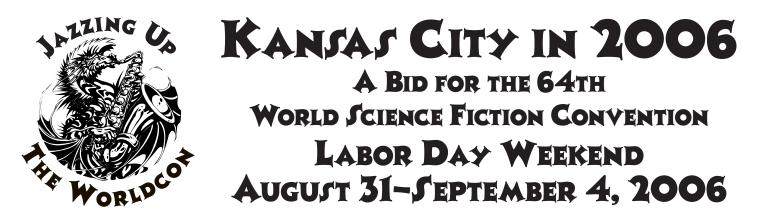
The TTC's 307 EGLINTON WEST bus route, part of the Blue Night Network, provides overnight service between Eglinton Station on the Yonge Subway Line and Terminal 2 at Toronto Pearson Airport. Buses run every 30 minutes, from approximately 1:30 a.m. to 5:00 a.m., seven days a week. One-way travel time is approximately 45 minutes.

Once at a Subway Line or Yonge St. Blue Night bus, take it to Union Station (across from Royal York Hotel)

Regular TTC fares apply, with full transfer privileges to and from other TTC routes.

Adult cash fare is \$2.25

For more information call (416) 393-4636 or visit the web site www.city.toronto.on.ca/ttc/index.htm.



ONE LAST BLATANT PITCH FOR YOUR VOTE

Just about two years ago, a group of people met on a front porch in Kansas City, and, after a couple of hours of discussion, asked a simple question: "Are we out of our minds?" The vote was unanimous, and the Kansas City in 2006 WorldCon Bid was a reality.

The last two years have been a great deal of fun, and hard work too. We've traveled all over the country (and outside it, too), met fascinating folks from around the world, thrown more parties than we care to think about and spent even more hours sitting at bid tables talking to anyone who would listen about why we thought Kansas City was a great place to hold a WorldCon. We've become good friends with the members of our esteemed competition, the L.A. in 2006 bid. We have received an incredible amount of assistance from fans everywhere, without which this bid would have been nearly impossible to do. We sincerely thank everyone who has presupported the Kansas City bid. A very special thanks goes out to those very generous folks who are our Yardbird and Count Basie presupporters for their invaluable assistance. And it's not too late to support the bid. You can presupport (or upgrade your presupport to Yardbird or Basie) until the close of voting Saturday evening at TorCon.

And now, it's time to choose. All members of TorCon, the 2003 WorldCon, have the privilege of voting for the 2006 Site Selection. Obviously, we hope you will vote for Kansas City. While we've mentioned a variety of reasons for you to choose us in the past, we'd like to take this last opportunity to go over the things that make this bid special, the Kansas City area unique, and such a great place to hold a WorldCon.

1) Our Dates–The Kansas City Worldcon will be held on the traditional Labor Day weekend, August 31st through September 4th. The Los Angeles bid plans to hold theirs the weekend before. This has given rise to a bizarre grassroots movement for *both*, which has horrified everyone in each camp. One WorldCon in a year is plenty, as far as we're concerned.

2) Convenience and Cost– Kansas City is located in the center of the America, no more than a day's drive away for most of the country. And all parking, both hotel and convention center, is **free**! Yes, that's **free**, as in no charge for parking. Hard to believe, but it's true. For those who prefer to fly, KCI is 30 minutes away from the Convention Center. And to help you get the most for your WorldCon dollar, regular rooms will be no more than \$99 per night!

3) Facilities–The Overland Park Convention Center went online on November 17, 2002, a scant 22 months after ground was broken, and over a month ahead of schedule. It has over 237,000 square feet of space, and amenities that include *high-speed internet access, connectors for a/v and multimedia presentations, and digital repeaters built in* to ensure that cell phones, pagers and other devices will function throughout the facility.

Attached to the convention center is a 412-room Sheraton hotel with over 25,000 square feet of function space. In all, there are 1,200 hotel rooms within walking distance and 4,000 rooms within five minutes of the Convention Center. Overland Park, the hotels and the Convention Center are working together to provide shuttle service between the facilities and the hotels throughout the convention.

4) History–One of the biggest reasons we decided to bid for 2006 was that it will be the 30th anniversary of the first Kansas City WorldCon, MidAmeriCon. Big Mac (as it was known) was a catalyst for fandom in the region, and we would like to provide the same experience for a new generation of fans, encouraging them to

go home and start clubs, run conventions, and, in another 30 years, come back to Kansas City and help the locals continue the tradition (it'll be a tradition then, we'll have done it twice).

5) Barbecue and Jazz–With all due respects to our friends elsewhere, Kansas City is the home of the finest slow-smoked meats in the universe. Brisket, pork, ham, sausage, burnt ends, and, of course, ribs-you'll find your favorite here, served up like nowhere else. Should Kansas City be fortunate enough to win the privilege of hosting the 64th WorldCon, something truly unique is planned: a barbecue crawl! A bus trip to a number of Kansas City's finest emporiums, each serving up their specialties for your delectation. It is also our

intent to pay tribute to Kansas City's jazz heritage by showcasing a number of local jazz bands via a series of concerts during the convention.

For more information about the bid, or the Kansas City area and its numerous and varied attractions and divertissements, please check out our website: www.midamericon.org. Stop by our bid table during the day, and make sure to check out our parties at TorCon. Again, we'd like to thank everyone who has encouraged and assisted us throughout this process, and we hope to see you all in Kansas City in 2006.

Service Mark notice: "World Science Fiction Society," "WSFS," "World Science Fiction Convention," "NASFiC," "Hugo" and "WorldCon" are registered service marks of the World Science Fiction Society, an unincorporated literary society.

Presupport Today! The benefits listed will be received if you vote in Toronto in 2003 and we win.

Presupport: \$20 US, supporting membership, 1/2 credit for conversion

Yardbird: \$50 US, attending membership, listing in program book **Preoppose: \$25 US** supporting membership 1/2 credit for conversion

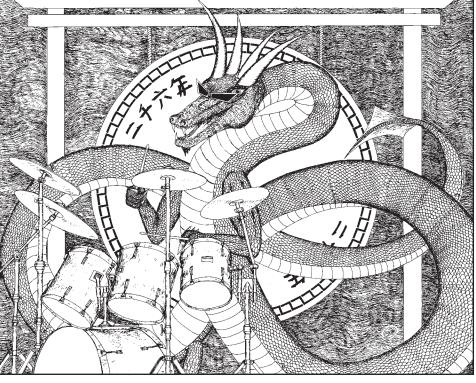
Count Basie: \$100 US attending membership, listing in program book; a bid t-shirt & more

Important Notice: You can Upgrade your Presupport to a Yardbird or Count Basie anytime until the end of voting and still receive the benefits! See us at our bid table and/or parties at TorCon, or mail it in. Upgrades must be postmarked no later than August 30, 2003.

For Up to Date Information on All Aspects of the Bid, see our Website: www.midamericon.org

Questions? Comments? Just want to chat? Our email address is: MidAmeriCon@kc.rr.com

Make checks (in U.S. funds) payable to Kansas City in 2006 and mail to: Kansas City 2006, P.O. Box 414175, Kansas City, MO 64141-4175



Division Reports

Programming

Alex von Thorn, Deputy

Programming Division Head writes... This is the part of our journey where the pilot speaks reassuringly about the approaching landing and all the interesting things people can do after they land. But the view from the cockpit has the ground coming up at an alarming speed and at a unexpected angle. We know that we're going to arrive on schedule, but the complexity of the task makes one wonder about what things will look like when Torcon touches down at the convention centre.

But overall we're exhilarated about the progress that we've made. With suggestions from countless people, we have over a thousand program ideas in our database. We had a few technical glitches getting the panelist web site up, but after I made an offhand comment to Terry Fong that "Well, I have another server," on the evening of June 24, Stirling Westrup was able to code, test, and populate the panelist questionnaire site in less than five days. It went live on Sunday morning, and as I write this Tuesday evening, more than 160 unique visitors have hit the new site. We have some great ideas!

Stanley Schmidt, Lawrence Schoen, and a couple other qualified linguists will be holding not one but two language-building workshops, which will be followed later in the con with a "first contact" scenario between the two groups of aliens. John Robert Colombo is going to drop by for a talk about four centuries of the fantastic in literature in Canada. Judith Hayman and the FilkOntario gang are setting up a great filk program, from panels to concerts to workshops. We will be playing to the Toronto fan community's strengths, from costuming to poetry to media, and we are also pulling out the stops in the traditional areas of writing, science, fan programming, and lots more. You'll see a lot of our guests of honour; George Martin is bringing presentations from his old life in Hollywood and chapters from his new book in progress. Kelly Freas will be sharing his experience of a lifetime of work in the visual art form, Mike Glyer has decades of first-hand knowledge of fandom, and Spider and Jeanne Robinson will be talking about their books, their lives, and their music.

We will be simplifying the process of signing in for program participants this year. Instead of having one line for registration and then a second desk for panelists, we are putting program information into individual members' registration packets, so you just have to go to regular registration to get everything you need.

Before panels, we'd like program participants to come to the Green Room, which is the Press Conference Room of the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, room 101 at the far west end of the lower level, which is about 80 meters from the central escalators, so the furthest programming spaces in the convention centre are about a three minute casual walk from here. Moderators should come thirty minutes before panels, and hopefully panelists can come fifteen to thirty minutes before their items; this will allow people to introduce themselves to each other, to get to know who can speak about what. Program Operations will be in the same space (on the other side of a partition, so this will be the place to come if you have problems, questions, conflicts, or other issues regarding participating in the program. Before the con, please feel free to send questions or comments to programming@torcon3.on.ca.

All of the programming information about panelists and program ideas is in our database, so as soon as we have responses from the questionnaire, Terry will be putting the schedule together. We're looking forward to a memorable program, and just as much, we're looking forward to meeting and talking with so many of our friends, colleagues, and favorite authors. See you all in August!

Facilities

Reserving A Room

Rooms reserved for Torcon 3 members still might be available at the Renaissance Toronto Hotel at Skydome.

To check availability of rooms at the Renaissance Toronto Hotel at Skydome:

1. Go to www.torcon3.on.ca.

2. On the left side click A-Z Index ~> click Reserve Your Room.

3. Read the text, especially the text at the bottom beginning WARNING.

4. At the bottom of the Reserve Your Room page click the blue underlined link "Click here to reserve online."

SpaDirect at Skydome Hotel

The Renaissance Toronto Hotel at SkyDome offers a spa service named SpaDirect. The hotel invites you to "Pamper yourself while at the hotel with a personalized and professional spa experience! Simply call 1-877-772-3977 to book your appointment during your stay."

The Renaissance is next door to the Metro Toronto Convention Centre for easy access during the Worldcon.

Baseball fans can enjoy a Labour Day game. The Toronto Blue Jays host the New York Yankees at 1:05 p.m. The hotel's restaurant and bar have seats overlooking the playing field.

See you at Torcon 3.

-Murray Moore, Facilities Division Head

Torcon 3 Dance News

The Torcon 3 Dance is brought to you by The Keith & Gary Show!

Our theme for Torcon 3 - SHOW US YOUR DREAM COS-TUME DANCE!!!

If you could be anyone at all in the SF universe, who would you be?

That's the theme for this dance, which is a costume affair. It's called "Show Us Your Dream".

We won't be having a formal competition like The Masquerade. We will be giving out prizes for best costumes in the following categories:

- Best overall costume
- Best workmanship
- Most elaborate costume.

Judging will take place throughout the evening, so if you want to compete, be there and be seen! We'll be announcing our winners sometime before midnight. We won't be using the standard Worldcon rules - any costume can compete. The judges? Us!

We'll also be having our world-famous Sexiest Dancers Contest after the costume awards, in three categories:

- Sexiest Male
- Sexiest Female
- Sexiest Couple.

Two points about requests:

• PLEASE keep them danceable - this is after all a dance!

and

 We can't take your CD and play it - we can't play something we've never heard before. The Keith & Gary Show's goal is to put on the best convention dance you've ever attended, or ever will attend (until you attend another one by us, that is). We want you to leave all wound up, saying "that was great!". We want you to be able to talk about it for years with your friends. That's our plan - that's what we're all about!

One last thing - **if you've sent us an e-mail request, please re-send it.** Due to a computer crash, we've lost them all.

Looking forward to seeing everyone Friday night!

To learn more about us, check out our web site http://home.cogeco.ca/~thekeithandgaryshow or e-mail us at thekeithandgaryshow@cogeco.ca.



Additional Notes About the Fairmont Royal York

Shipping

Boxes shipped to The Fairmont Royal York must be clearly labeled, listing the name and date of the conference, the hotel contact name, plus the vendor contact name and company name. Further specification as to which banquet room the items are for will expedite service when retrieving the materials on site. Conference materials should be shipped and removed within one day of the start and finish of the conference. Please advise the Conference Services / Catering Manager for the event of any incoming shipment materials prior to shipping. For international shipments, please be aware that a Customs Brokerage firm should be engaged for all shipments into Canada, thus ensuring materials are delivered to the Hotel on time.

Sign / Banner Regulations

No signs, or other articles are to be fastened to Hotel wall brackets or other electrical fixtures. The use of thumb tacks, scotch tape, nails, screws, bolts, crowbars, hand spikes, or any tool or material which could damage the floor or walls, is prohibited by The Fairmont Royal York.

Division Reports, continued...

Events

The Events Division continues to fine-tune its planning...

Thursday, August 28th

8:00 p.m. - Torcon 3 OPENING CEREMONY and GUEST OF HONOUR RECEPTION, Royal York Concert Hall.

For Torcon 3, we have combined these two popular events into an opening night "not be missed" special! Join in the fun as we kick-off Toronto's third Worldcon. Meet and mingle with our Guests of Honour, other Torcon participants and volunteers, and of course, all your friends from around the globe and beyond. And make sure you stay after the event for a late-night concert by our own 'recovered folksinger' Spider Robinson who--with a little help from Jeanne Robinson-will sing pazz, jop, bolk, flues, and some original material, with solo guitar accompaniment.

Friday, August 29th

1:00 - 3:00 p.m. - AURORA AWARDS*, Metro Toronto Convention Centre, Bassett Theatre.

Want to see how it's down up north? Join us for the Canadian Aurora Awards as we celebrate our national stars. We especially would like to invite all our non-Canadian friends to attend so that we can share f&sf, Canadian-style, with you!

7:00 - 10:00 p.m. - CHESLEY AWARDS*, Bassett Theatre, MTCC.

Honouring the best and most innovative artists in the world of science fiction, fantasy and speculative art.

8:30 pmShow us your Dream Costume Dance Royal York Concert Hall.

Warm up for the dance with Jungle Cats on the prowl. Slinky, playful, majestic and mischievous, Ravenar dance troupe celebrates the many aspects of the cat. Ravenar fuses belly dance with a variety of music, including pop and movie themes. They perform at SF Cons and parties all over the US and now in Canada.

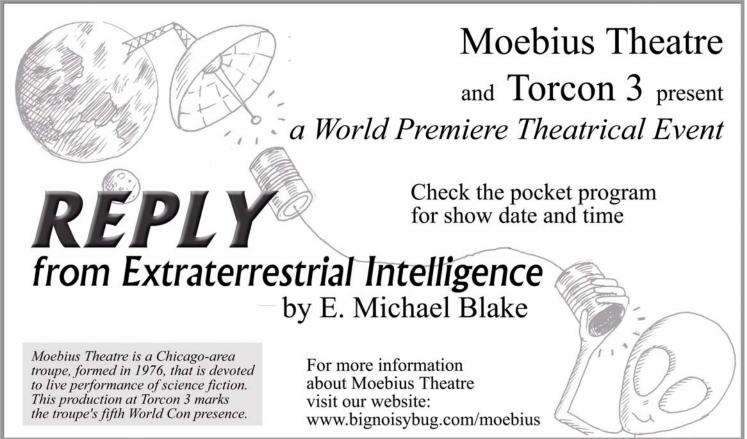
Saturday, August 30th

10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. - Robert Heinlein Pay it Forward BLOOD DRIVE, MTCC, Room 204. Fans have a wellearned reputation for voluntarism, so come on out and donate a pint for this very worthy cause.

3:00 p.m. - Reply From Extraterrestrial Intelligence,* an original play in two acts by E. Michael Blake presented by Moebius Theatre - Royal York Concert Hall.

8:00 p.m. - 50th Anniversary HUGO CEREMONY MTCC, Hall C. 50th Anniversary Presentation of the Hugo Awards

Torcon 3 is honoured to be hosting the 50th edition of these prestigious awards. Come and remember the past 50 years with us, as we celebrate the stories of tomorrow.



(continued from page 18)

Sunday, August 31st

2:00 - 4:00 p.m. - REGENCY BALL, MTCC. John Hertz, fandom's inimitable expert on the Regency era, will once again host the Regency Ball. Everyone is invited to join John as he shows you how to dance Regency-style! This is a participatory event - so feel free to join in, two left feet and all!

8:00 p.m. - MASQUERADE, MTCC, Hall C, with MC Gordon Rose. We are adding an excellent half-time programme which will be A Salute to Canadian Costuming Fashion Show.

If you wish to participate in the masquerade, please see full details on the next page or visit the Torcon 3 web site.

Monday, September 1st

4:00 p.m. - CLOSING CEREMONIES, Royal York Concert Hall

Come give Torcon 3 a fond farewell, and say good-bye to all your friends, new and old!

*Times and dates may be subject to change - check the Torcon 3 web site for the most up-to-date information

**Location may be subject to change - check the Torcon 3 web site for the most up-to-date information

Customs and Immigration: Crossing the Border

Identification:

If you are a citizen of the United States, you will need to bring one of the following to prove your citizenship:

- U.S. passport (note: can be expired)
- USINS naturalization certificate
- birth certificate AND valid photo I/D (such as drivers license or state card) both are required.
- minor children need a birth certificate, passport, or naturalization certificate.

If it is not listed above, it does not prove citizenship.

The following DO NOT prove U.S. citizenship

- drivers license (it is just proof you can drive a car)
- social security card (it is just proof you're registered to pay taxes)

If you are a Resident Alien of the U.S., you MUST bring either a valid U.S. Resident Alien card, or a valid I-551 stamp in your valid passport.

If you are a citizen of any other country, you must be in possession of a valid passport. Some countries require visas. For a list of those countries, please go to www.ci.gc.ca - and access the list of countries requiring visas. These can be obtained from any Canadian Embassy or Consulate - you will also find a list of those on the website as well. You should apply at least six weeks in advance for a visa if required.

Persons with police records:

Due to increased security concerns, criminality checks are being run on an ever increasing basis. If you have ever been convicted of any crime, it is highly recommended you contact your nearest Canadian Embassy or Consulate at www.ci.gc.ca - and access the list to find out where the closest one is. Note: there are crimes considered minor in some countries such as operating while impaired ("drunk driving") or writing a bad cheque (check) which are federal offences in Canada - and these will stop you from being able to enter Canada. Please check to be on the safe side. If you are refused entry, you will forfeit your membership and will be charged for one night for hotel even after cancellation.

Items which may not be brought into Canada:

There is a long list of Prohibited Weapons - objects which are illegal in Canada. Some things on this list include nun chucks, or spiked wristbands. Please go to http://www.cfc-ccaf.gc.ca/cfm/ENGLISH/LEG/CC/ 0840000F.HTM for more information.

There are also a number of items listed as prohibited due to being on the Endangered Species list. More information on this topic and other things that cannot be brought into Canada can be found at http://www.ccra-adrc.gc.ca/.

Everything You Wanted to Know About Money...

This article is directed to non-Canadians who will be coming to Toronto, and Canada, for Torcon 3. We try to mention almost everything that our convention members would like to know about local money, foreign currency, local taxes and related topics.

Because Canada and the US are neighbours, various financial and economic systems have grown around us allowing for US currency to be more readily handled than other foreign currencies.

Highlights

Canadian bank notes - Because of wide spread counterfeiting, most businesses will not accept \$100 bills.

US\$ bank notes - Many local businesses will allow you to spend your US\$ bank notes without your first converting them to Canadian currency. However, you may not receive a fair exchange rate.

Credit cards - Visa, Mastercard and American Express are accepted at most businesses that accept credit cards. Do not plan to use your Discover Card at all.

Debit cards - Generally, only Canadians will be able to make point-of-sale purchases using a debit card.

ATMs - ATMs are plentiful. So long as you belong to a large network such as Cirrus, Star, Plus, etc., you should be able to withdraw cash in Canadian currency.

Taxes - 7% Goods and Services Tax and 8% Provincial Sales Tax apply to most of your purchases. Non-Canadians can apply to get a refund of the GST they pay on many purchases. Persons who are not residents of Ontario may apply to get a refund of the PST they pay on very large purchases.

Exchanging currency - Exchange foreign currency at banks or make

purchases on your credit cards to receive the best rate of exchange. Also, the foreign exchange counter at the convention centre will be open long hours and will have favourable rates of exchange.

Hotels - Hotels will exchange only a limited amount of foreign currency each day, and will cash only a limited amount of travellers cheques each day.

The Convention - Different areas of the convention will be accepting payment in Canadian funds and US funds. Please read the detail below carefully for more information.

Going Home - When returning to your own country, there are limits as to what you are allowed to take back with you. Do your own homework on this, but we provide some guidelines below.

The Basics

Canadian Bank notes and coins

Canadian bank notes are multicoloured. Common denominations are \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50 and \$100. Note that \$100 bills have apparently been subject to a lot of counterfeiting of late, so almost all businesses refuse to take them. Try to avoid them and save yourself some trouble. If you do have \$100 bills, you are best to go to a bank and exchange them for smaller denominations.

Over the past 15 years, Canada has replaced the \$1 and \$2 bills with coins. You will hear people commonly refer to the \$1 coin as the "loonie" (the image on the back of the coin is a loon), and to the \$2 coin as the "toonie" (two-nie). Common coins are 1¢, 5¢, 10¢, 25¢, \$1 and \$2. You will sometimes run across 50¢ coins, but not often. Be prepared to manage your coins well or end up with a pocket full of change.

US bank notes, coins and travellers cheques

Most (but not all) restaurants and stores in Toronto and the surrounding region will accept US bills and coins. However, whereas at a bank you might expect to receive Cdn\$1.48 or Cdn\$1.52 for every US\$1.00 (roughly the rates of exchange when this article was written in early-February 2003), you will find that when you are spending US currency directly at a store or restaurant, the exchange rate given will be to your disadvantage. You might receive Cdn\$1.50, or only Cdn\$1.40 or maybe just Cdn\$1.25 or even just Cdn\$1.00. There are no laws governing the exchange of currency at the retail level. You are subject to whatever rate the establishment has self-determined. Those that deal frequently with US tourists will usually post their exchange rate where you can see it. If you don't see it, ask before committing to a purchase.

If you pay for a purchase with US funds, you will receive your change in Canadian funds. So if the exchange rate the seller uses is not favourable, remember that you are losing value not just on the purchase price but on the full amount of the US funds that you use for your payment.

You are much better to exchange your US currency into Canadian currency at a bank or foreign exchange office that will give you a better rate.

Actually, the above discussion really pertains to US bills. If you want to spend your US\$ coins, you will only get value equal to exactly the same Canadian coins.

Other currencies - bills, coins, travellers cheques

Generally, if you are carrying any other currency, you should convert it into Canadian funds at a bank, foreign exchange office or hotel. Restaurants and stores will not be able to handle other currencies, unless you are shopping at a very specialised location where you already know that the establishment is willing to take your foreign money.

Credit cards

Most businesses of any size accept Visa and Mastercard. Most, but not all, also accept American Express. Restaurants and other businesses which deal frequently with business travellers will also accept other cards such as Diners Club. Note however that Discover Card is almost unknown in Canada (as of the time of writing this article, we do not know of any business that accepts Discover Card) so do not expect to use it here.

If you rarely travel outside of your own country, shortly before leaving for Torcon, you might want to call all your credit card issuers (there should be a toll-free number for the issuer in small print on the back of the card). You want to notify them that you will be travelling in Canada on certain dates. You want them to note this in their records so that, if an automatic program notes unusual usage of your card from another country, they won't invalidate the card for fear that it's been stolen.

And if you seldom stay at hotels for long periods of time, here is something else to keep in mind: When you check into a hotel, they will often contact your credit card company and put a sizeable hold on funds available through your card, in order to ensure that there will be sufficient credit available to pay your hotel bill with that credit card when you check out. If you carry more than one credit card, you may want to give the hotel one card for their information and use a different card for your regular purchases.

Debit cards

Canadians make far greater use of debit cards for purchases than Americans. Most retail establishments of any size will accept debit cards for purchases - however, the debit cards (which take money directly from your bank account) must be part of the Interac network, which is exclusively a network of Canadian banks. So persons from outside of Canada will most likely not be able to make point-ofsale (p.o.s.) purchases using their bank's debit card.

Personal Cheques (or "checks" to some of you)

The Canadian banking system is very good at processing cheques written in other currencies. As a general rule of thumb however, cheques written on an account located in Canada should be written in Canadian funds. cheques written on an account located in the US should be written in US funds, etc. To do otherwise, means that the person depositing the cheque into their account may face long delays and hefty bank charges in order to get their funds. So it is advisable for non-Canadians to pay Canadian retailers, restaurants and dealers at the convention by means other than personal cheques.

In fact, because of the popularity of credit cards and debit cards, not as many businesses accept personal cheques these days. Outside of the convention, you will find it very difficult to pay for purchases with cheques written in a currency other than Canadian funds.

At the convention, for example in the dealers' room, a US based dealer may be very willing to accept a cheque from a US member of the convention.

So don't necessarily leave your chequebook at home, but also don't expect to use it much outside of purchases at the convention.

If you are an American and a Canadian writes a cheque to you, for whatever reason, check the address of the bank on the cheque. Many people have made arrangements with their bank to have a US bank address on the cheque, which makes it much easier for the US recipient to cash the cheque.

ATMs (Automatic Teller Machines)

ATMs are very plentiful in Toronto and the surrounding area. The convention centre and our hotels are located right beside the downtown business district, so ATM machines are easy to find. If at some point during the convention, you find that a machine has run out of cash, you should not have to go to far to find another machine.

If your bank participates in one of the international networks such as Cirrus, Plus, Star, etc. then you should not have difficulty in finding an ATM from which you can make cash withdrawals. Note however that not all machines are on all networks -- certain banks are affiliated with certain networks.

ATM machines dispense Canadian bank notes. However, if your bank is located outside of Canada, then your account balance will be reduced by your own currencies' equivalent amount - at whatever exchange rate your financial institution is using at the time.

Most ATM machines dispense only \$20 bills. Some will dispense \$20 and \$10 bills. A few have recently started spitting out \$50 bills.

There are a few ATMs around the city which will dispense US\$ bank notes. One, operated by the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce is located the Atrium building/shopping complex which is across the street from the current bus station at Bay St. and Dundas St. This is not within walking distance of the convention centre, but is just a short taxi ride or short trip by bus or subway if you really need to get to it.

Much closer, the Royal Bank of Canada has an ATM which dispenses US\$ bank notes and travellers cheques. That ATM is located on the lower level (below street level) of the Royal Bank Plaza which is located directly east of the Fairmont Royal York Hotel and which can be reached by an easy walk in the PATH system without going outside.

The Bank of Montreal also has a machine in the concourse under its main bank tower which will dispense rolled coins. There is an additional fee for this service on top of the regular bank fees.



Before leaving home, you should check with your own bank as to what it will cost you to use ATMs in Canada. If you have a bank plan, there may be no additional charge. However, making withdrawals in another country using the Cirrus or other networks usually entails a higher bank fee per transaction than making a withdrawal in your home town.

In the US, it has become a common practice for a bank to charge an additional fee above and beyond network fees. Happily, in Canada, this practice is not prevalent at most bank ATMs. Usually you will pay just the Interac or Cirrus or Plus (etc.) transaction fee IF you are using an ATM of one of the major banks.

Be aware though that there are a number of ATM machines which are not supported by the major banks. These WILL charge an additional transaction fee. You can generally recognize these machines because they do not have any bank identification on them. The ATMs near the foreign exchange offices at the Toronto airport are this type.

There is one ATM in the Fairmont Royal York Hotel. It is at the east end of the AA level (one below street level). The Crown Plaza does not have any ATM machines on its premises, but there are ATMS in the convention centre which is attached, and directly across the street. At the Renaissance Toronto Hotel at Sky-Dome there is one ATM on the premises and two ATMs a few steps outside of the front doors of the hotel. At the Holiday Inn on King there is one ATM (type unknown) in the gift shop.

There are Royal Bank of Canada ATMs located in the convention centre.

In Union Station, the train station directly across the street from the Fairmont Royal York Hotel, there are three ATMS in the ticket purchase area (two bank machines and one "rogue"), six bank ATMs on the belowground level (two in the regular arrivals area and four in the transit arrivals area) and one "rogue" ATM in the departures area.

Taxes

When you spend money in Toronto, your purchase may be subject to the GST at 7%, the PST at 8%, or both.

Almost everything that you spend money on in Canada is subject to the Federal government's Goods and Services Tax (GST) which is charged at 7%. Just as the name states, this tax is applied to all goods and all services. There are some exceptions however. The common exceptions are things that will not affect convention attendees very much, such as residential rents, financial charges (bank charges, interest) and certain food items.

There are two exceptions that may benefit convention attendees. First, small retailers who expect to have total sales during the year of less than a certain dollar amount are not required to register for the GST and therefore do not collect the GST from their customers. Second, dealers and artists from outside of Canada who do not have plans to sell goods at other conventions in Canada are not permitted to register for GST; therefore they will not collect GST on the goods that they sell.

Therefore, convention attendees may have to pay GST on some of their purchases at the convention, and may not have to pay GST on other purchases.

If you are required to pay GST on your purchase, the seller is required to give you a receipt which clearly indicates the amount of GST paid and the seller's GST registration number. If you are non-Canadian it is valuable for you to keep the receipts for your larger purchases, because with a little bit of effort on your part you are able to get a refund from the Canadian government on certain GST amounts paid (see below).

Most purchases of materials are subject to Ontario's Provincial Sales Tax (PST) at the rate of 8%. Food items are exempt. Books are exempt. Magazines are not exempt.

(If you visit other provinces in Canada, the provincial sales tax rates are different in each province.) One other point on taxes... the taxes on your hotel bill will total 12%, that being GST at 7% but PST at a special rate of only 5%.

Non-Canadians may file a claim with the Federal Government in order to obtain a refund of GST paid on certain purchases, including GST paid on their hotel bills. See below for more information.

Persons from outside of Ontario may file a claim with the Ontario Government in order to obtain a refund of PST paid on certain large purchases. You may not claim a refund of PST paid on your hotel bills. See below for more information.

Tipping

Similar to the United States, tipping is a common practice in Canada. Restaurants and other establishments therefore usually pay lower wages in the expectation that their staff will earn additional money through the tips that the customers leave behind in reward for good food and/or service.

Tips are not normally mandatory. The exception is when you take a large party to a restaurant, the restaurant will often have a policy of adding a specific percentage on to the bill for tips. Ask about this policy before you are seated, if you are concerned. And check the menu - it will usually state the restaurant's policy.

Tipping in restaurants is usually 10% to 20% of the bill. When calculating your tip, remember that there is 15% tax already added on (GST of 7% and PST of 8%) and you may want to calculate your tip on the BEFORE tax amount, rather than on the final total. In fact, many people leave a 15% tip, calculating that by leaving a tip in the same amount as the taxes.

Currency exchange

When you exchange your US funds, or other currency, for Canadian funds, you will receive a different exchange rate at different exchange locations. You might obtain Canadian funds in several ways:

- at your local bank into Cdn\$ bank notes or into Cdn\$ travellers cheques
- at a foreign exchange counter at the Toronto airport, at a land border crossing, at the convention centre, or at a variety of store front locations in downtown Toronto into Cdn\$ bank notes
- at a Toronto bank into Cdn\$ bank notes
- by withdrawing Cdn\$ bank notes from your bank account at an ATM machine
- at the front desk of your hotel
- by making a purchase on your credit card
- by making a purchase in Canada using US\$ bank notes, and receiving Cdn\$ bank notes and coins as change

We believe that you will receive better exchange rates in the following order:

Your own bank

You will probably receive the best exchange rate possible from your own bank or credit card company. When you are making your travel plans, talk to your local bank about having them obtain Cdn\$ bank notes or travellers cheques for you. Usually, the smaller the bank, the more lead time they need to obtain the currency for you, so do plan ahead.

Credit Cards

Your next best exchange rate is probably to make whatever purchases you can using your credit card. Your credit card company will then translate the purchase into your own currency when it appears on your credit card statement.

ATMs

Withdrawing Canadian bank notes from ATMs should also give you a generally favourable exchange rate. However, you should check with your bank before travelling so that you are familiar with what bank charges your will incur. You are usually charged a set fee per transaction, so it is better to make one or two large withdrawals rather than a bunch of small withdrawals.

Toronto Banks

Exchanging your foreign currency into Canadian funds at a bank will generally give you a better exchange rate than at foreign exchange offices or hotels, and perhaps as good a rate as you can get on your plastic or at your home bank. However, some banks may charge an additional transaction fee; if this is the case, you are better to convert your currency in fewer transactions. (As an example, the Royal Bank of Canada charges a service charge of Cdn\$3.00 per transaction for all persons who are not Royal Bank customers.)

Torcon 3 is being held in downtown Toronto, right near the main business area. There are a number of bank locations, mostly to the east and north of the Fairmont Royal York Hotel. You may walk into any of these branches, join the line for the tellers and then exchange your US or other currency into Canadian funds. You should expect to have to show some identification.

All bank locations will be closed on Sunday and Monday of the convention (Monday is Labour Day in Canada, a national holiday). Most bank locations in the downtown area will be closed on the Saturday. We will attempt to obtain a list of locations that will be open on Saturday and revise this article with that list when we have it.

As an example of bank hours, the Main Branch of the Royal Bank of Canada (the convention's own bank), located at Royal Bank Plaza which is immediately east of the Fairmont Royal York Hotel will be 9:00 am to 5:00 pm weekdays, closed on Saturday and Sunday and also closed on the Labour Day Monday holiday. The Royal Bank also has a branch located across the street from the west end of the convention centre which will have similar hours.

On the days that they are open, most bank locations in the downtown business core will be open from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm or so, but some may have shorter hours and some may have longer hours. Check with each location to determine their exact hours, if that is important to you.

Also, note that Toronto's downtown business area has a large network of interconnecting shopping areas below ground level (under the office towers) where you will find lots of shops, restaurants -- plus banks and ATM machines. This is the PATH system, on which a lot more is written elsewhere on our website. So don't just go looking at ground level for a bank check the concourse level as well. Note however, that these businesses cater to the people who work in the office towers and are generally closed on weekends and after business hours on weekdays.

Further information regarding Travellers Cheques: The brand of Travellers Cheques you are carrying, may determine which local bank you will need to deal with if you want to turn them into Canadian bank notes. For example, the Royal Bank of Canada ("RBC") is an agent for American Express Travellers Cheques and non-RBC clients may cash American Express Travellers Cheques at the Royal Bank (but you must show at least a current valid passport and may be asked for further identification as well). The Royal Bank of Canada will only cash other brands of Travellers Cheques for their own clients, so if you are a visitor to Canada, you will need to seek out a different bank to cash your Travellers Cheques.

Your Hotel

We contacted the hotels in our room block and asked them about their policies on exchanging foreign currency into Canadian funds. All of our hotels indicate that they will do so, but only for hotel guests. Each hotel indicated that they will cash travellers cheques or exchange cash to a maximum of Cdn\$100.00 per day per room.

When we enquired as to the rates of exchange that they give, all hotels indicated that the rate is the same whether they are converting foreign cash, or foreign travellers cheques. As to the actual rates used, compared to the rates given by major banks, the hotels responded as follows:



A bid to host the 65th World Science Fiction Convention Labor Day Weekend 2007 Columbus, Ohio

Discover... The Affordable &

Accessible Alternative

\$89-99 a night room rates, convenient & inexpensive parking, reasonable airfares from around the world & reliable ground transportation to and from the airport.

Discover... Stellar Convention

Facilities with Experienced Staff Our proposed site includes: The Hyatt Regency, The Crowne Plaza, The Drury Inn & *Newly Expanded* Columbus Convention Center that has hosted conventions with as many as 15,000 attendees.

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Convention Organizers

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You are invited to our parties at TorCon to discover what Columbus has to offer WorldCon in 2007.

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Numerous Restaurants & Bars including Barley's Brewing Company Ale House No. 1, Buca di Beppo, BD's Mongolian BBQ, Ted's Montana Grill, Ben and Jerry's, Chipotle & O'Shaughnessy's Public House plus, Ample Shopping, Movies, & Art Galleries within walking distance.

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- "Our rate is similar, we do not charge service fee."
- "Generally, the bank's exchange rate is more favourable."
- "Competitive"
- "The variance between the hotel and a major bank on the exchange rate would be approx 3%."

Foreign exchange office

Toronto is a very popular tourist destination. It is also an international business centre and one of the most multi-cultural cities in the world. There are many visitors coming to Toronto and leaving Toronto who want to convert their currency to or from Canadian funds.

As a result there are a large number of store-front foreign exchange businesses where you can walk up to a counter, similar to a bank teller and buy and sell many foreign currencies. There is a foreign exchange business located in the convention centre where Torcon 3 will be held. American Express operates a travel centre, including a foreign exchange counter on the concourse level of the Fairmont Royal York Hotel. Similar offices are located in various locations in the downtown business area and along Toronto's most popular downtown shopping street, Yonge Street.

Keep in mind that these foreign exchange businesses may not be open on Sunday and Monday, and those in the downtown business area will most likely not be open on Saturday. (The Yonge Street businesses will probably be open Sunday due to tourist shopping in the area.)

Also keep in mind that these businesses primarily make their income by buying currency from you and selling other currency to you. That means that they probably need to make a bigger profit margin on every transaction - which in turn means that they will not give you as good an exchange rate as you would get at a bank or at your hotel.

As an example, on the evening of February 16, 2003, at the Toronto airport, the foreign exchange offices were giving Cdn\$1.43 for every US\$1.00 converted, but it took Cdn\$1.59 to purchase US\$1.00 from them - a spread of 16ϕ - which means that the foreign exchange office makes about 8ϕ off of you each time they buy or sell currency from you - a higher spread than the banks usually charge.

Good news: We have confirmed with the foreign exchange office in the convention centre that they will generally be open 9 am to 9 pm on all days of the convention, including the holiday Monday. And their spread between buy and sell rates is only about 5ϕ , which is as good as the banks are offering.

Paying with your US bank notes, coins and travellers cheques

(This is a repetition of the same information that was stated at the beginning of this article)

Most (but not all) restaurants and stores in Toronto and the surrounding region will accept US bills and coins. However, whereas at a bank you might expect to receive Cdn\$1.48 or Cdn\$1.52 for every US\$1.00 (roughly the rates of exchange when this article was written in early-February 2003), you will find that when you are spending US currency directly at a store or restaurant, the exchange rate given will be to your disadvantage. You might receive Cdn\$1.50, or only Cdn\$1.40 or maybe just Cdn\$1.25 or even just Cdn\$1.00. There are no laws governing the exchange of currency at the retail level. You are subject to whatever rate the establishment has self-determined. Those that deal frequently with US tourists will usually post their exchange rate where you can see it. If you don't see it, ask before committing to a purchase.

If you pay for a purchase with US funds, you will receive your change in Canadian funds. So if the exchange rate the seller uses is not favourable, remember that you are losing value not just on the purchase price but on the full amount of the US funds that you use for your payment.

Actually, the above discussion really pertains to US bills. If you want to

spend your US\$ coins, you will only get value equal to exactly the same Canadian coins.

After the convention - Going home

When you are ready to return home you may have Canadian funds left over which you would like to convert into US or other funds. Most people try to plan their spending so that they have very little left over and usually end up purchasing a candy bar or other small items at the airport to use up the last of their "funny money."

However, if you have enough Canadian currency left over that you want to convert it, please keep several things in mind....

First, before leaving home, check with your own local bank as to their policy on handling Canadian cash and cheques drawn in Canadian funds on Canadian banks.

You can convert your Canadian funds back into your own currency at banks or foreign exchange offices. Please note that none of the hotels in our convention block will convert Canadian funds to foreign funds.

Banks and foreign exchange offices will only sell you foreign bank notes. So you will most likely still end up with a bit of Canadian funds left over.

Banks and foreign exchange offices will not sell you foreign currency at the same exchange rate that they will use when purchasing it from you. There is usually a rate difference of at least 5% and perhaps higher.

If you are a dealer or other person who may have a large amount of Canadian currency which you wish to convert to a foreign currency (cash or bank draft), you should make contact with a local bank prior to the convention and find out their specific policies in this regard. You may be asked a lot of questions due to new money laundering rules that have gone into effect. In fact, you may find it difficult to find a bank which will handle the transaction for you. If you find yourself in such a situation, the convention itself may be able to be of assistance to you. Contact the Torcon 3 treasurer at treasurer@torcon3.on.ca BEFORE

the convention to discuss this matter further.

(When Torcon 3 attempted to find a bank in Chicago in 2000 and in Philadelphia in 2001 who would be willing to convert US cash into a US bank draft, most banks declined to do so since we were not depositors with them.)

We have asked our own bank, the Royal Bank of Canada, to provide us with information as to what procedures a member of our convention would have to follow when wanting to convert a large sum of Canadian cash into US cash or bank draft. When we have the bank's answer, we will update this article accordingly.

At the Convention

Foreign Exchange

The convention is not in the business of exchanging your cash from one currency to another. There are certain circumstances when you will be able to make a payment in US funds, and other situations when you will not. We do not plan to have sizeable amounts of US currency available for making change. In those circumstances when we do have to convert funds from one currency to another we will be as fair as we can, but the exchange will always be made in favour of the convention and will be calculated in a manner that is easiest for our volunteers. You may be better to convert your funds elsewhere. Please read the following carefully.

At-Con Registration

If you need to purchase a full membership, child membership or day membership or convert from supporting to attending membership at the convention, Torcon 3's at-con registration desk will be accepting payment in various forms.

At-Con Registration will be posting membership rates in both Canadian funds and US funds.

We will accept payment in Canadian funds by way of cash, credit card, debit card, travellers cheque and personal cheque. We will accept payment in US funds in cash, travellers cheque and personal cheque.

At-Con Registration will not accept payment in any other foreign currency.

If you pay by US\$ cash or travellers cheque and you will receive your change in US funds. We are not in the business of converting currencies, or cashing travellers cheques. We therefore reserve the right to request that payment be made with travellers cheques or cash in amounts that do not require significant amounts of change to be given.

All credit card transactions will be processed in Canadian funds (but will be translated by your bank into your own currency).

There is no GST or PST charged on the cost of a membership.

Dealers' Room

The Dealers' Room will have dealers who originate from Canada, the US, Britain and perhaps elsewhere as well. As such, each will have their own manner in which they will be willing to accept payments, and each may be required to charge different amounts of tax on their sales.

Every dealer will accept payment for sales in Canadian cash.

Some dealers may quote their prices in Canadian funds, while some may quote their prices in US funds. Those who quote prices in US funds should also be clearly displaying the rate of exchange that they will be applying to the marked prices in order to arrive at the price which is to be paid in Canadian funds.

If you are paying by way of credit card, the dealer may advise you that the purchase will be processed in a non-Canadian currency, since the credit card will be processed through his own bank. When signing a credit card slip, you should be sure that it clearly indicates whether the amount is in Canadian funds, US funds, British funds, etc.

Dealers may or may not accept personal cheques. Dealers may or may not accept payment by debit card. Each will set his own policy, often dependent on what country each of the dealer and purchaser normally do their banking in.

Some dealers will be charging 7% GST on their sales. Some will be charging 8% PST on their sales. There is no requirement for a dealer to post their tax status on their tables.

As a purchaser, your concern is primarily with your total purchase price, and not so much with how much of that price is taxes. If you are unsure, ask a dealer what the total price of your purchase will be prior to committing to the purchase.

If you are required to pay GST on your purchase, the seller is required to give you a receipt which clearly indicates the amount of GST paid and the seller's GST registration number. If you are non-Canadian it is valuable for you to keep the receipts for your larger purchases, because with a little bit of effort on your part you are able to get a refund from the Canadian government on certain GST amounts paid (see below).

Art Show (including print shop)

All art work in the art show will be priced solely in Canadian funds.

The art show will accept payment in Canadian funds by way of cash, credit card, debit card, travellers cheque and perhaps by personal cheque.

The art show will accept payment in US funds in travellers cheques and perhaps by personal cheque. US cash will not be accepted as payment at the art show.

The art show will not accept payment in any other foreign currency.

At this time the convention has not made a firm decision on whether to accept Art Show payments by personal cheque. If a decision is made that we will accept personal cheques, we would still prefer some other form of payment - so please come prepared to pay by some other means if at all possible.

If you pay by US\$ travellers cheque or US\$ personal cheque your entire

GREAT CANADIAN SF AND

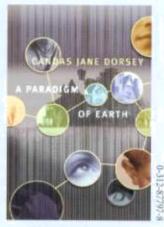


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CORY DOCTOROW Down and Out in the Magic Kingdom

The wild, eagerly-anticipated debut novel from 2000 s winner of the John W. Campbell Award for Best New Writer.

"Cory Doctorow doesn t just write about the future -1 think he lives there." —Kelly Link, author of *Stranger Things Happen*



CANDAS JANE DORSEY A Paradigm of Earth

A classic feminist SF novel by the author of *Black Wine*, winner of the Tiptree Award and IAFA/Crawford Award.

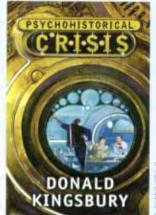
"As brilliant as William Gibson, as complex as Gene Wolfe, with a humanity and passion all her own, Dorsey...[is] a winner." —Ursula K. Le Guin



ED GREENWOOD The Dragon s Doom Available in hardcover May 2003

The newest Band of Four adventure from the creator of the bestselling *Forgotten Realms*^{ms} RPG.

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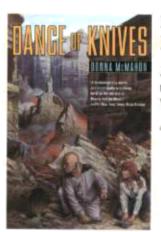




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A novel of Newford, a modern city where ancient magic lives beside humans, and anything can happen.

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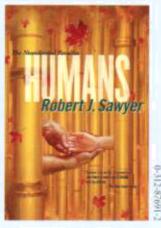
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SPIDER ROBINSON The Free Lunch

Acclaimed author Spider Robinson invites readers to enter Dreamworld, the ultimate utopian amusement park of the future.

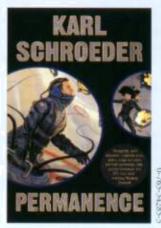
"Spider Robinson is the Tom Robbins of the 21st Century." —John Varley



ROBERT J. SAWYER Humans

The second book of a major SF trilogy from the Nebula Award-winning author of *Calculating God*.

"Sawyer is a writer of boundless confidence and bold scientific extrapolation." —The New York Times



KARL SCHROEDER Permanence

A new epic of far-future hard SF from the author of Ventus.

"Ventus...is an ambitious novel.... The plotting is appropriately multifaceted, the characters surprisingly complex, the denouement... deeply satisfying." — The New York Times



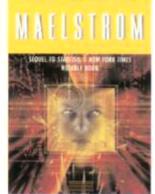
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JO WALTON The Prize in the Game

A brand new tale set in the world of Tir Isarnagiri, the same world of the acclaimed *The Kings Peace*, in a time of dark powers, strong heroes, and passionate loves.

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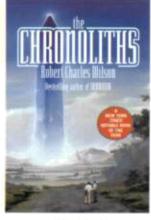


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The acclaimed sequel to Starfish, a New York Times Notable Book.

"I have no hesitation in recommending both [Maelstrom and Starfish] to readers interested in up-to-date science fiction with a seriously planned edge." —The New York Times



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From the award-winning author of the bestselling *Darwinia* comes a tale of a man haunted by his past and his future.

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GUESTS OF HONOR

- Terry Pratchett
- William Tenn
- Jack Speer
- Peter Weston

FACILITIES

- Hynes Convention Center
- Sheraton Boston Hotel
- Boston Marriott Copley Place

MEMBERSHIP RATES (Through Sept. 30, 2003)

Attending membership: US\$ 160 Supporting membership: US\$ 35 Upgrade existing supporting membership to attending: US\$ 125 Child's admission: US\$ 105 (12 & under as of Sept. 6, 2004; Child's admission does not include publications or voting rights.)

Installment plan available; write to us at: installments@noreascon.org

ADDRESSES

Noreascon Four/MCFI P.O. Box 1010 Framingham, MA 01701-1010 United States of America

Fax: +1 617.776.3243

Web page: www.noreascon.org

Online registration available

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Blast off for Boston!



Book your seat on the Noreascon Four express or astrogate your way to our (inter)stellar party!

Please stop by for a chat at our table in the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, and we'll tell you about First Night Noreascon style, the Ankh-Morpork Concourse, and other special plans. We want to delight you, amaze you, and pretty much knock your socks off (until the Sock Hop).

Noreascon Four September 2–6, 2004 Boston, Massachusetts, USA amount of payment will be converted into Canadian funds at a rate of exchange as determined by the convention. Any change you receive WILL be in Canadian funds.

All credit card transactions will be processed in Canadian funds (but will be translated by your bank into your own currency).

All art show sales will be subject to 8% PST. Some artwork will be subject to the 7% GST (only the artwork sold by artists who are registered for GST). The bidding sheets for the artwork will indicate the GST status of each piece so that potential purchasers will be aware of that extra charge, if it applies.

If you purchase artwork and pay GST, you will receive a receipt clearly indicating the amount of GST paid. If you are non-Canadian it is valuable for you to keep the receipts for your larger purchases, because with a little bit of effort on your part you are able to get a refund from the Canadian government on certain GST amounts paid (see below).

These policies will be conveyed to all members at the convention.

Site Selection

Site Selection is administered by persons who are independent from Torcon 3. Payments are being processed primarily in the United States rather than in Canada and so certain payment policies are different from those of the convention itself.

Site selection fees are to be paid at the time a member participates in the voting to determine who will host the 2006 WorldCon and who will host the 2005 NASFic. Voting and payment may be done before Torcon 3 or at Torcon 3.

In order to vote in site selection you must first become a member of Torcon 3. Because payments for membership are being handled by the convention, but payments for site selection are handled independently, you must join the convention and receive your membership number before voting; you may not do both at the same time. If you wish to pay by credit card, you can use our online registration system to join Torcon 3 very quickly.

Site selection voting fees will be posted in both US funds and Canadian funds.

Prior to the convention, payment may be made in Canadian funds by personal cheque or in US funds by personal cheque or credit card.

At the convention, payment may be made in Canadian funds by way of cash, personal cheque or travellers cheque. Payment in US funds may be made by cash, credit cards, personal cheque or travellers cheques.

For further clarification, all site selection voting fees paid by credit card will be processed in US funds.

Obtaining a GST Refund

You may qualify to obtain a refund of the 7% GST which you pay on certain purchases while in Canada. If you wish to claim a refund, there are certain procedures that you must follow in order to claim the refund. At the beginning of the trip you should determine if you plan to claim a refund, and if so, make sure you get the appropriate receipts during your trip.

The following text is excerpted and, in some instances rephrased, from the Government of Canada's Visitor Tax Refund booklet. Copies of the GST rebate form will be available at the convention.

Do you qualify for a GST refund?

You qualify for a tax refund if you meet the following conditions:

- you are not a resident of Canada;
- you purchased eligible goods, short-term accommodation (i.e. your hotel bills), or both;
- you paid GST on these purchases;
- you have original receipts (the refund office will not accept photocopies, debit or credit card slips);
- original receipts for purchases of goods have to be stamped depending on how you travel when leaving Canada
- for eligible goods, each receipt shows a minimum purchase

amount (before taxes) of Cdn\$50.00 (if your receipt shows a lesser purchase, not including the tax amounts, then you cannot claim a GST refund on that purchase);

- your purchase amounts (before taxes) total at least Cdn\$200 for eligible goods and short-term accommodation; and
- your refund application must be received by the refund office within one year from the date the goods were taken out of the country and/ or the accommodation fees were paid.

What does and does not qualify for a refund?

There is NO REFUND of the tax paid on such items as: entertainment; meals and alcohol; tobacco products; services such as dry cleaning and hairdressing; air, train and bus tickets; car rentals and automotive fuels; rentals of travel trailers and other recreational vehicles; or cruise ship cabins and train berths. This is not an allinclusive list.

In addition, any goods that you consume or leave in Canada do not qualify for this refund.

You can claim a refund of the GST paid on most goods you take home with you. Goods qualify for a refund if you meet the following conditions:

- you paid GST on the goods;
- you bought the goods to use primarily outside Canada; and
- you took the out of Canada within 60 days of buying them. (see below for information on stamping of your receipts).

You can also claim a refund of the GST paid on short-term accommodation if the following conditions are met:

- each accommodation unit was provided to you for less than one month of continuous occupancy; and
- each receipt shows the number of nights of short-term accommodation in each unit of a lodging establishment made available to you.

If you stay at a campsite during your visit to Canada, the tax paid on campsite fees, including any charges for hook-ups, qualifies for a refund of GST.

How to Get Your Refund, Free of Charge

One way to get your refund is to complete the government's official refund form. Be sure to sign and date your refund application and to attach original receipts.

Alternatively, you can visit one of the participating duty-free shops at land borders to obtain a cash refund for eligible claims that do not exceed Cdn\$500. See the pamphlet referred to above in PDF or HTML format for the list of participating duty-free shops.

WARNING

A number of private companies may offer to complete the refund application for you. You will find their brochures many places, including in the stacks of entertainment flyers in hotel lobbies. And some of them have store front locations (in the Eaton Centre shopping mall, for example). These companies submit the application as your agent and may charge you a fee for their services. Although their advertising tries to make them look "official" these companies are not associated with the Government of Canada. Their fees may eat up pretty much all of your refund - and the paperwork you have to prepare to satisfy them is about the same as what you have to give the government if you do it yourself.

Proof of export and stamping your receipts

Proof of export is required if you wish to claim a refund of the tax paid on eligible goods which you take out of Canada. What is considered proof of export can vary depending on how you leave Canada. how the goods are exported, and the departure point. Proof of export is not required for accommodation receipts.

If you leave by plane from an international airport, Canadian customs officials will stamp receipts for proof of export at these nine Canadian international airports: Vancouver, Edmonton, Calgary, Winnipeg, Toronto (Pearson International), Ottawa, Montréal-Mirabel, Montréal-Dorval, and Halifax. When leaving Canada from any of these airports, you must have your eligible goods together with their original receipts available for inspection and a Canadian customs official must stamp the original receipts. Airport duty-free shops do not provide this service.

Follow the Canada Customs signs, or signs that read "Tax Refund for Visitors to Canada." Also, staff at Canadian customs information counters will be able to direct you to where you can have your receipts stamped. Remember to allow extra time at the airport to have your receipts stamped for proof of export, keeping in mind that other passengers will also be requesting this service. You should arrive at the airport even earlier than the time recommended by your airline to be at your boarding gate on time.

If you leave by private vehicle or charter bus tour, get your receipts for goods stamped by staff at participating land-border duty-free shops, or by Canadian customs officials as you leave Canada.

In addition to original receipts, which need to be stamped, you may be asked to show:

- proof that you are a non-resident of Canada such as photo identification;
- the goods that go with the original receipts; and
- proof that you are leaving Canada, such as a charter bus tour ticket or vehicle licence plate number.

If you leave by other modes of transportation such as ferry, train or noncharter bus, send your application and enclose your original boarding pass or carrier ticket, together with your original receipts to the address provided on the back of the application form.

If you personally ship your goods outside Canada, you likely paid tax on these goods. Follow one of these procedures to get your visitor tax refund: At a participating land border dutyfree shop, show the staff your shipping and other export documents, original receipts, and photo identification. If you do not go to a participating land border duty-free shop, mail your refund claim and include shipping and related export documents, along with the original receipts.

Additional information

Canadian customs officials will not determine which of your goods are eligible for the visitor tax refund.

Although most Canadian highway land-border customs offices provide the receipt stamping service, they themselves do not issue cash refunds.

Staff at participating land-border dutyfree shops will only stamp receipts for goods that qualify for the tax refund. They can stamp your receipts even if you choose not to use their cash refund service.

If you have not purchased enough eligible goods and short-term accommodation to meet the \$200 minimum requirement, you may ask to have your receipts for goods stamped so that you can use these receipts on a future claim as long as the claim is made within one year.

Also note that the government will not return your original receipts to you.

A suggestion

When shopping around Toronto, or even in the Dealer's Room at the convention, if you are making a purchase on which you have to pay GST, try to purchase once from the retailer rather than making several smaller purchases - remember, your pre-tax purchase price on a receipt must be greater than \$50.00 in order to get back the GST from that purchase.

So, if necessary, wait and combine your purchases into one larger purchase.

Obtaining a PST Refund

The Government of Ontario offers a refund on PST on large purchases. Each individual receipt submitted must show that PST paid was at least Cdn\$50.00, meaning that the purchase price must have been at least Cdn\$625.00. Keep this in mind if you are in the habit of making large dollar value purchases from the Art Show or the Dealers' Room or elsewhere in Ontario.

In order to claim the refund, you must remove the goods from Ontario within 30 days of purchase.

For Non-Canadians, there does not appear to be any requirement to get a customs stamp or similar proof that the goods were taken out of the Province.

In order for Canadians from other provinces to claim a refund of Ontario sales tax, they must provide proof that they have paid their own Province's sales tax on the goods.

A refund claim must be filed with the Province of Ontario within 4 years of buying the goods.

No refund is available on PST paid for hotel accommodations.

A suggestion

Same as our GST suggestion above... When shopping around Toronto, or even at the convention especially from the Art Show - if you are making a purchase on which you have to pay PST, try to make one single purchase from the retailer or convention, rather than making several smaller purchases - remember, your PST paid on the receipt must be greater than \$50.00 in order to get back the PST from that purchase.

So, if necessary, wait and combine your purchases into one larger purchase.

Crossing the Border

The following information was found on another website. We are in the process of confirming whether it is up to date, but are providing it to you as general information. We suggest that you check with your own customs authorities as to what you are permitted to take home with you.

Importing Items (bringing goods into Canada)

The following is a list of items you are allowed to bring into Canada tax-free if you are over 19 and a visitor to Canada (the rules are different for Canadians returning to Canada from abroad).

200gm tobacco, OR 200 cigarettes, OR 20 cigars, OR 200 tobacco sticks per person; 1.5 litres of wine OR 1.14 litres of liquor per person, gifts for relatives and friends, tax-free as long as each gift is valued at Cdn\$60.00 or less.

(The primary focus of this article is on money-related matters. However, please keep in mind that there are other restrictions when crossing the border into Canada. In particular certain items are restricted or simply nor permitted - for example, firearms and other weapons may not be brought in. Also, radar detectors are not permitted in Ontario; you may not drive a car into Ontario which has a radar detection device mounted into it.)

Returning Home

The following is a guideline for visitors returning home from Canada and may change at any time. Contact your local embassy or consulate, before returning home, if you are unsure of an item you are bringing back home.

US Residents Every 30 days, returning U.S. Citizens are allowed to bring back duty free \$400 worth of retail merchandise, provided they have been outside the U.S. for 48 hours. If the length of stay is less than 48 hours, \$200 worth of merchandise may be taken back to the USA.

UK Residents Citizens of the U.K. returning from a non-EU country have a customs allowance of 200 cigarettes, OR 50 cigars, OR 250g of smoking tobacco; 2 litres of still table wine; 1 litre of spirits or strong liqueur (over 22% volume); 2 litres of fortified wine, sparkling wine, OR other liqueurs; 60cc (ml) perfume; 250cc (ml) of cologne; AND £145 worth of all other goods, including gifts and souvenirs. People under 17 cannot have the tobacco or alcohol allowance.

EU Residents Each passenger over 17 years of age from a non-EU coun-

try is entitled to import the following articles duty-free; in 200 cigarettes, OR 50 cigars, OR 250g of tobacco (or a mixture of all three if their combined weight doesn't exceed 250g); 2I of wine, and 1 I of spirits with an alcoholic content exceeding 22% vol, OR 2 I of spirits/aperitifs with an alcoholic content less than 22% vol, OR 2 I champagne/sparkling wine/liqueur wine; 50 g of perfume; 0.25 I cologne; gifts of a value not exceeding approximately ECU 175. Limits cannot be added for passengers travelling together.

Australian Residents The duty-free allowance in Australia is A\$400 OR, for those under 18, A\$200. Personal property mailed back from abroad should be marked Australian goods returned to avoid payment of duty. Upon returning to Australia, citizens can bring in 250 cigarettes OR 250g of loose tobacco; and 1.125ml of alcohol. If you're returning with previously owned valuable goods, such as foreign-made cameras, file form B263.

New Zealand Residents The dutyfree allowance for New Zealand is NZ\$700. Citizens over 17 can bring in 200 cigarettes, or 50 cigars, OR 250g of tobacco (OR a mixture of all three if their combined weight doesn't exceed 250g); plus 4.5 litres of wine and beer, OR 1.125 litres of liquor. New Zealand currency does not carry import or export restrictions. Fill out a certificate of export, listing the valuables you are taking out of the country; that way, you can bring them back without paying duty.

Visitors to Canada from countries not listed here should check before they leave home as to what their own dutyfree limits are.

MULTIMEDIA FAN-CLUB

USS *Hudson Bay* reiterates its invitation for you to join us for a room party on the Thursday evening of Torcon 3. The party will be held in the Costumers' Suite, co-sponsored by the costumers and IDIC/USS *Hudson Bay*. The USS *Hudson Bay* has been in operation for more than 10 years.

The USS *Hudson Bay* has been in operation for more than 10 years. Infinite Diversity International Corporation ("IDIC") is a non-profit, multimedia fan club. "USS *Hudson Bay*" is an operating name of IDIC.

SOME GENERAL AREAS OF INTEREST

Acting · Animé · Animation · Anthologies · Anthropology · Archaeology · Art · Astronomy ·Costuming · Comic Books · Debate · Discussion · Fan Fiction · Fantasy · Fanzines · Fiction-Writing· Filk Music · Film-Production · Gaming · Horror · Make-Up · Martial Arts · Model-Making · Movies· Musical Composition · Mysticism · Mythology · Novels · Performance · Photography · Poetry ·Propmaking · Public Speaking · Science · Science Fiction · Short Stories · Superheroes · TV Series



SOME SPECIFIC CREATORS AND WORKS OF INTEREST

Andromeda · Angel · Babylon 5 · Don Bassie · Stephanie Bedwell-Grime · KarenBennett · Buffy the Vampire Slayer · Carolyn Clink · David Clink · Julie E. Czerneda· The Dead Zone · Peter de Jager · Doctor Who · Earth: Final Conflict · Enterprise· Mici Gold · Harry Potter · Robert A. Heinlein · James Alan Gardner · SepheraGiron · Sandra Kasturi · Eric Layman · Lord of the Rings · Karin Lowachee ·Quantum Leap · Harry Potter · Gene Roddenberry · Robert J. Sawyer · Karl Schroeder· Douglas Smith · Stargate · Star Trek · Star Wars · Isaac Szpindel · Edo vanBelkom · Mel Vavaroutsos · Alexander von Thorn · J.R.R. Tolkien · Peter Watts ·Robert Charles Wilson · The X-Files

CONVENTIONS

Our members have attended various Seatreks and conventions all over Ontario and in many states (California, Georgia, Michigan, New York, Ohio, and Pennsylvania). Our regular Toronto conventions include Animé North, Ad Astra, Primedia, and Toronto Trek. Many of our members volunteer at conventions – both local and distant.

OPEN MEETINGS

Open meetings are held about once a month in the auditorium of the North York Central Library, Toronto, at North York Centre subway stop on the Yonge line. By car, the library is just a few minutes north of Highway 401. The meetings have included media discussions, readings by Canadian authors, illustrated talks on science topics, games, script readings, Christmas parties, concerts, workshops, etc.

OTHER CLUB ACTIVITIES

After meetings, we have supper at a local restaurant, then watch a first-run movie nearby. Films we have seen include *Star Wars; Galaxy Quest; The Mummy; Star Trek: Nemesis; The World Is Not Enough; Gladiator; Toy Story; Lord of the Rings; Monsters, Inc.; The Count of Monte Cristo; Harry Potter; Spider-Man; Daredevil; and Finding Nemo.* We have also visited the Toronto Zoo, the Ontario Science Centre, Paramount Canada's Wonderland, and Big City Improv. Each summer we have escaped the heat of the city by holding a picnic on Toronto Island.

NEWSLETTER

Our newsletter, *The Voyageur*, is a three-time winner of the Aurora Award for best fanzine. *The Voyageur* includes original fiction; notices of new releases of speculative fiction and multimedia news; interviews with writers, actors, and behind-the-scenes crew; book, movie, and TV episode reviews; artwork; puzzles; and information about activities of the USS *Hudson Bay*. We have also published a fanzine, *Holodeck One*, with short stories, artwork, articles, parodies, poems, puzzles, and filk songs.

ROOM PARTY!

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

We communicate with many of our members via e-mail, informing them of meetings and upcoming events. Our website **www.idic.ca** gives the history of the club and describes upcoming events – you can even download back-issues of *The Voyageur*.

MEMBERSHIP

Members receive notice of our monthly meetings, can participate in all our activities, and have the opportunity to be pressed into service on *volunteer* with the executive committee. Membership in the USS *Hudson Bay* is 30 Canadian dollars (C\$30) per year plus C\$2.50/year for each additional member of the same household. Each C\$30 member will receive one subscription to *The Voyageur*.

Please photocopy the form below for each C\$30 membership. Please make your cheque or money order payable in Canadian dollars to the order of "USS *Hudson Bay*" and send it with your application form to:

USS Hudson Bay Member Services c/o Lynda L. Ciaschini 7050 Weston Road, Suite 301 Woodbridge, Ontario L4L 8G7 CANADA

CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information, please visit our website **www.idic.ca** or send e-mail to **info@idic.ca** or mail a note to the address at left, or contact Lynda L. Ciaschini at home (416-221-6291) or business (905-850-6080).

Is this a \Box **new** membership or a \Box **renewal** of an existing or expired membership? **Please print!**

Primary Member:			
Last Name	First Name(s) and Mi	iddle Initial(s)	Date of Birth (YYYY/MM/DD)
Apartment # Address			
City	Province or State		Postal Code or ZIP Code
Daytime Telephone Number	I	Evening Telephone Number	L
() —		()	—
Cellular Telephone Number		E-mail Address	
() —			
Other Household Members: Last Name	First Name(s) and Middle Initial(s)		Date of Birth (YYYY/MM/DD)
Last Name	First Name(s) and Mi	First Name(s) and Middle Initial(s)	
Last Name	First Name(s) and Mi	iddle Initial(s)	Date of Birth (YYYY/MM/DD)
Last Name	First Name(s) and Mi	iddle Initial(s)	Date of Birth (YYYY/MM/DD)
Last Name	First Name(s) and Mi	iddle Initial(s)	Date of Birth (YYYY/MM/DD)
	L	To	tal Amount Enclosed

C\$

Tonnes of Tones at Torcon

Once again we've come to gather Greeting friends, both new-found and old Sharing songs that laugh Even sharing songs that cry All night through, emotions high

There you are wandering the halls of the Fairmont Royal York. Yum, that classy mezzanine level is pretty isn't it? Such a stately building, beautiful wood panelling, brightly polished brass, world class filk music.

Say what?

Yup, world class filk music in a world class hotel. There will be some hot musicians and hot music to boot.

The Space

We have two rooms full time and two part-time. In Territories you'll hear concerts, special events and performers' circles. In Confederation 3 will be panels, workshops, theme filks, and open filks. In the evening, there will be two additional rooms making 3 or 4 open filk rooms. All of these are on the Mezzanine level of the Fairmont Royal York, easily reached by escalator or elevator. The Royal York is also where the party suites and the con suite are located. Currently filk programming runs from 11 am through until... well, whenever the filkers get tired and go to bed.

The Filk Lounge

There will and won't be a filk lounge.... Given the proximity to parties and consuite a full filk lounge would be overkill. However, we will offer a quiet room for gathering, chatting, tuning, planning and generally hanging out. And we'll be offering an Instrument check for those who wish to park their axe and wander. Please note: When the Instrument Check closes, usually at Midnight, it closes, and we will not open it for you. Sorry.

Sing -- let your heart be in it Dance -- let your soul ring out Sing -- raise the ceiling higher Dance -- remove all doubt We belong together Our paths the same by choice Many hearts, One Voice

The Filk Program:

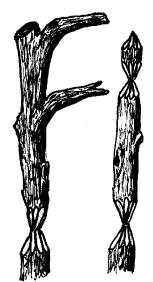
Filk starts off with gatherings on Wednesday evening at the Royal York, including a choral rehearsal for use later in the con. The first open filk of the con will follow.

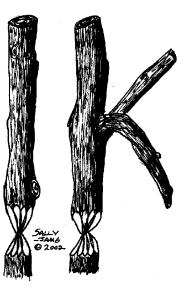
Over the next several days, there's just about everything you might expect at a Worldcon Filk Track: Concerts, workshops, panels, performers' circles, theme filks and open filks in many flavours and some truly exciting Special Events.

At press time the following were scheduled for concerts (and gave their permission to shamelessly promote their names):

- Andrew & Kate Barton
- Mark Bernstein
- Heather & Wayne Borean
- Nate & Louie Bucklin
- Terence Chua
- Dandelion Wine
- (Dave Clement & Tom Jeffers)
- Ingrid de Buda
- Gary Ehrlich
- Dick Eney
- Daniel & Melissa Glasser
- Lynn Gold
- Clif & Carol Flynt
- Barry Gold
- Judith Hayman

- Randy Hoffman
- Rhodri James
- Jordin Kare
- Paul Kwinn
- Graham Leathers
- Steve Macdonald
- Joel Polowin
- Bill & Gretchen Roper
- Roberta Rogow
- River Folk (Becca Allan & Chas Somdahl)
- Kathleen Sloan
- Bill & Brenda Sutton
- Urban Tapestry (Allison Durno, Jodi Krangle & Debbie Ohi)
- Peggi Warner-Lalonde





Special Events

Chapter and Verse

In this crossover panel between music and writing, we'll explore parallel creative processes on a single theme: The written sources and songs inspired by them. Several of our esteemed authors and half a dozen musicians will participate. Organised and hosted by Carol Flynt.

Columbia Remembrance and Space Celebration

Remembering Columbia and her crew in song, as well as expressing our heartfelt support of space exploration and the space program. Songs of this sort are part of the true soul of filk music. Organised by Sally Headford

Coffeehouse

Join us for an evening of entertainment. Poetry readings, storytelling and songs presented in a casual coffeehouse environment. One-shots for many disciplines! A joint effort of poetry (Carolyn Clink) and filk (Judith Hayman).

Science and Song

Computers, space, biology... the sciences have inspired many a song. The filkers will sing about it, the scientists will discuss it. Organised by Peggi Warner-Lalonde.

Kinderfilk - Concerts for Kid

Filk and children's music for those who are chronologically as well as spiritually young. So many filkers have offered that there will be music galore in the kids area. (with Lisa Ragsdale)

The Pegasus Nominees

The voting ballot for the Pegasus Awards, presented at the Ohio Valley Filk Fest, is released in mid-August. We'll be featuring the songs nominated in the categories of "Best Song", "Best Parody" and "Best Original Humorous Song" with host Steve Macdonald.

Instabands - Return

Have you ever wanted to join a band? Here's your chance. Bring your interest and your talent and we'll match you up with other enthusiasts. Hats off to "Decadent" Dave Clement for originating the idea at Conadian in 1994.

Rules:

- You must register at the filk lounge (Saskatchewan Room, Royal York) by 2 p.m. on Friday.
- "Bands" will be announced late on Friday. A song-picking session will be held and song selection(s) must be made by the end of that session.
- Rehearsal space and time have been set aside for practice.
- Present your song(s) on Monday afternoon at a special concert.

The Open Filks in Many Styles:

Chaos: Just like it says, there is no particular order -- the next person just jumps in, though it's often nice to sustain

a mood or a topic. We're in Canada so we take turns and call it polite chaos.

And the music rings high, and the music rings low, But the music rings always, to light our way home.

Bardic: Pick, pass, or play. We go around the circle and each person can pass his or her turn, play a song or pick someone else to do so.

Poker Chip Bardic: A blend of chaos and bardic. Poker chips are handed out at the beginning of a round. You can wait for a turn, or jump in. Either way you use up a chip. Once your chips are gone, no more turns until everyone else's chips are gone.

Domino: Each person must explain how his or her song connects to the previous one, in an obvious or not so obvious fashion.

We'll wind up the Filk Track with the Official Dead Beaver Filk on Monday, from after dinner until sometime Tuesday morning. The filk doesn't have to end then though. Our homegrown filk dealer, Minstrel's Glenn, will be in the dealers' room to lighten your pockets and make merry with your ears.

At Torcon the music will ring loud and clear all day and most of the night -- all of it if you come and join in!

Filk Track Team:

Filk Track Gurus: Dave & Judith Hayman (we do it all)

Filk Publications: Judith Hayman

Filk Database: Dave Hayman

Programming Staff:Carol Flynt, Sally Headford, Peggi Warner-Lalonde

Ops Staff:Heather Borean, Wayne Borean, Jan Dimasi, Trace Hagemann

Recording:USB Studios

Sound Team Leads: Peggi Warner-Lalonde & Ken Lalonde

Sound Team: J. Spencer Love, Howard Scrimgeour

Sound Helpers: Ingrid de Buda, Joel Polowin

Credits

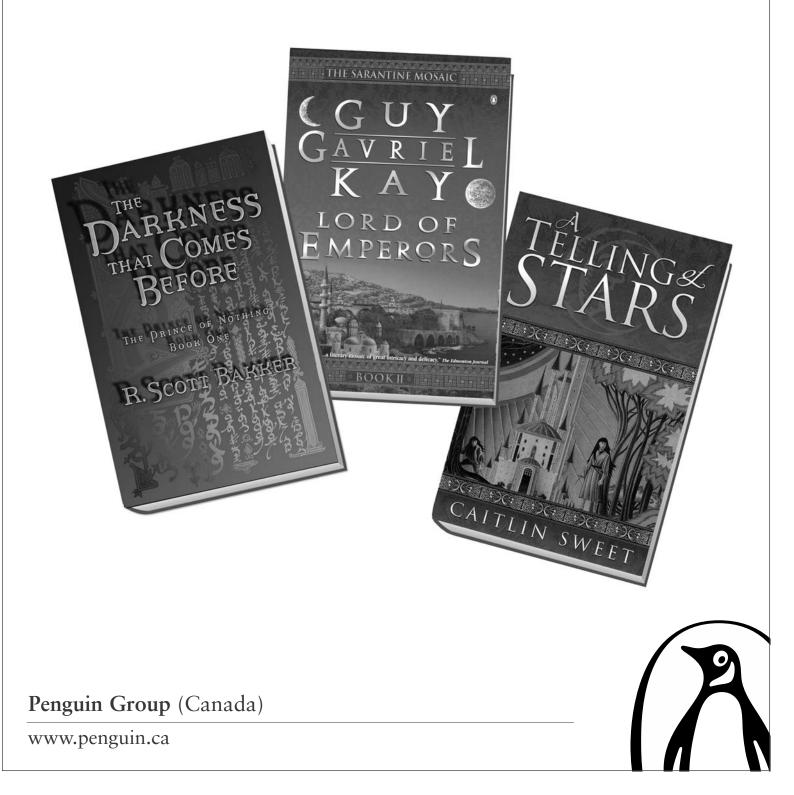
Art: Sally Headford

Lyrics: Quotes 1 & 2, "Many Hearts, One Voice," © Steve Macdonald (used by permission); Quote 3, "Music Rings," © Judith Hayman.

For more information contact Judith & Dave at filk@torcon3.on.ca

Note the discussion group: http://groups.yahoo.com/ group/Torcon3Filk/

Your passport to new worlds...



Spreading Wonder:

The SF in the Classroom Educators' Program

Come One! Come All!

See the wonder! Grab some for yourself!

The more you take away, the more you'll have!

A bit over the top? Not really. Even educators who don't use science fiction admit it excites and motivates their students in a way nothing else -- barring summer holidays -- can do. Those who do use it keep finding new and better ways to take advantage of its unique combination of story-telling and ideas. Why? Science fiction is critical thinking about science, both fictional and real. More than that, it reveals the human face of science in terms of those who do it and those whose lives may be affected by it, while giving a front row seat to how ideas begin and change. Perhaps the single most significant contribution of science fiction makes to education is exactly that: the inspiration of creative thought, in both science and language. The power to imagine. To wonder. That's the goal of the SF in the Classroom Educators' Program being offered at Torcon3.

The Program Itself

Our underlying theme is space exploration and materials presented will be suitable for middle through high school. The program will demonstrate how to use science fiction with activities that address science curriculum needs, specifically scientific literacy, as well as those of language arts, in middle through high school. This combination will allow teachers to fulfill several integration requirements within a tight time-frame.

The SFC Educators' Program will be a distinct entity within Torcon 3, taking place Saturday morning through early afternoon. There will be a brief meet and greet at the beginning, followed by a keynote speaker to set the tone. Then, participants may choose between a science track or a language arts track. Both will include a topic discussion by a panel of experts, followed by a hands-on workshop led by classroom teachers. There will be a wrap-up panel to answer questions, discuss resources, and share ideas. All materials presented or used in both tracks will be provided to participants on a CD as well as maintained on a website after the convention.

Who May Attend

The SFC Educators' Program is open to all members of Torcon 3. However, to maintain the quality of the workshops, we will have to limit the number of participants, so please notify us of your intention to attend this program as early as possible by emailing Julie.Czerneda@sff.net

A Note of Thanks

The Torcon 3 SF in the Classroom Educators' Program does not stand alone. It builds on the wonderful programs and innovations of educators, scientists, authors, and others who have helped promote the value of SF literature in classrooms for many years. We acknowledge the work of all of these individuals with gratitude. Due to their efforts, and hopefully ours, science fiction as a classroom tool is gaining recognition.

While conventions, both large and small, continue to generously provide time and encouragement to those wishing to run SF classroom programming, it should be noted that such programs are now starting to be offered by educators themselves. For example, SF in the Classroom will be a component of the Space Science weekend workshop for the third consecutive year next June at the Wright Center for Innovation in Education at Tufts University (sponsored by the Chandra Observatory and the Smithsonian Astronomical Society). It has been a focus of the Alberta Science Foundation and been featured for seven years at the annual conference (STAO) of the Science Teachers Association of Ontario. The newly launched Science News website for kids, http://www.sciencenewsforkids.org/ includes a section for both students and educators on using SF to explore science concepts, called the SciFiZone, hosted by a professional SF author and featuring weekly activities.

The wonder of science fiction. It's why we're coming to the World Science Fiction Convention, isn't it? Here's your chance to spread it further. Attend the SFC Educators' Program and take some of that wonder back to your schools, students, and communities.

> -Julie E. Czerneda, Coordinator, SF Classroom Programming Torcon3

Wet, Wild and Wonderful - Niagara Falls

(Compiled from various web sites by Jody Dix)

"Niagara Falls! Slowly I turned, step by step, inch by inch...."

Never been to the Falls before? If your answer is no then it's time you visited one of the world's most breathtaking natural wonders.

Where else can you feel the thunder, ride the air, walk on white water and let your spirits soar? And when you're soaking wet and deafened, you can visit a heritage site, tour a winery, shop till you drop, laugh till you cry in any number of tacky museums, and end the day by gambling away your child's college fund at the Casino.

Feel The Thunder - Journey Behind The Falls

Emerge far below the rim of the gorge. Journey deep into the heart of Niagara and see the mighty river explode after free-falling more than thirteen stories. The sound is deafening, the sight, awe-inspiring. This is a self-guided tour with thrilling views from below and beneath the Falls.

Ride The Air - Whirlpool Aero Car

Suspended in space above the gorge, watch the great vultures surf the thermals while far below the torrent of water abruptly changes direction, creating one of the world's most frightening natural phenomena - The Niagara Whirlpool. Whirlpool Aero Car adventure allows you to experience the beauty of the rapids from a suspended cable car.

Discover Raging White Water

Downstream from the falls the gorge has been cut deep and narrow by millennia of rushing white water, resulting in one of the wildest stretches of whitewater in the world. Stroll alongside and marvel at the relentless power and beauty of nature. The White Water Walk takes you to the river's edge by transporting you via a quick elevator trip.

Let Your Spirit Soar - The Butterfly Conservatory

Explore an ingenious network of pathways among lush, exotic flora in a tropical rainforest setting. Everywhere there are exquisite butterflies floating in the warm, moist air or spreading their iridescent wings on leaves and flowers.

And don't forget to take a ride aboard the Maid of the Mist, one of North America's oldest tourist attractions. Its history is resplendent with stories of daredevil rescues and visits from royalty. Stand at the bow, swathed in rain gear and feel the mist lightly spray your face. Hear the rumble of the water; sense the vast power of it all.

When you need to step back and catch your breath, journey into the past at one of the many Heritage sites. Visit the Laura Secord Homestead, home of the heroine of the War of 1812. From her home in Queenston village, Laura set out on a 32 km (20 mile) walk through the American lines and over wild and unsettled country to warn the British forces of an impending attack at Beaverdams.

Step back in time at Historic Fort Erie, a strategic military site during the War of 1812, occupied by American forces who used it as their base of operations for the invasion of Upper Canada. Explore the oldest buildings on the Great Lakes at Old Fort Niagara. It boasts some of the finest examples of original European military architecture to be found in North America. Discover the early French and British heritage of the Niagara Region and learn about the site's 300 year history.

And, if all this isn't enough for you, try one of the many other tourist attractions. Visit Alien Encounters, Canada's only interactive Alien museum/ haunted house. Ride up The Falls Tower or the Minolta Tower or the Skylon Tower for spectacular views of the Horseshoe and American Falls. Take a helicopter tour or try indoor skydiving.

Visit Marineland, the Criminals Hall of Fame Wax Museum, and the Guinness World of Records Museum. Shop till you drop at the Canada One Factory Outlets or check out the National Geographic Store. And don't forget the Casino - if you have any money left, that is.

Got a Car?

To get to Niagara Falls, Ontario, from Buffalo, take the 1-190 west to the Peace Bridge Border Crossing (Exit 9) and get on the Queen Elizabeth Way (QEW). Take the QEW to Niagara Falls and follow the signs from there.

To get there from Niagara Falls, NY, take any of the three bridges that connect the U.S. and Canada in Niagara Falls. The Rainbow Bridge and the Whirlpool Bridge link Niagara Falls, New York with Niagara Falls, ON. To the north, is the bridge at Lewiston, NY and Queenston, ON; just follow the signs south towards Niagara Falls.

To get to Niagara Falls from downtown Toronto, take the Gardiner Expressway to the Queen Elizabeth Way (QEW). Take the QEW to Niagara Falls and follow the signs from there.

Don't have a car? The Concierge at your Torcon 3 hotel will be happy to help you.

For more information about Niagara Falls, Ontario, check out the following web sites:

 www.discoverniagara.com www.infoniagara.com www.NiagaraParks.com

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Tal, Hilevitz Talent Kirsten, Jerri Tallan, Carolyn Tallan, Michael Tamre, Bill Tan, Cecilia Tan, Irwin Tanaka, Hicaru Taniguchi, Jason Tatsuya, Yamamoto Tawzer, Irene Taylor, Andy Taylor, Arthur Taylor, Bill Taylor, David Taylor, Dena Tavlor. Les Taylor, Michael J. Taylor, Suzanna W Teehan, John Tegen, Alan R. Tegen, Penny M. Teichert, Barbara Teichert, Gillian Terrell, Dana Terrell, Irvin Tetrick, Byron R Thau, Susan Thaver, David Thayer, Diana Thelan, Michael Thibodeau, Randal Thoelcke, Adelia Thoelcke, Trey Thomas, Peter L. Thomasson, W A (Bill) Thompson, Christine Thompson, Donald E Thompson, Richard Thomson, Amy Thomson, Becky Thorn, Anna Z. Thorn, John Robert Thorndike, Persis Thornhill, Denice M. Thornton, Becky Thornton, Rob Thorp, Katy Thorp, Steve Tilghman, Adam G Tillyer, Douglas Timm, Don A. Timmerman, Mathew Timmerman, Russell Timpko, Charles Timpko, Denise Todd-Prather, Martha Toker, Susan Tolbert, Jeremy Tolbert, Sarah Toleson, Christine Tollett, James A. Tollett, Jerry H Tomaino, Samuel J. Tomasek, Franz Tomasevic, Sally Tompkins, Dave Tompkins, Dorothy E. Toney, Mark Toolis, Lorna Toomi, Juri Toop, Geoffrey Totusek, Ann Tourtellotte, Shane Towers, Tony Townsend, Michael Townsend, Tamu Toy, Stephen

Trankovits, Susan Travis, David L. Traviss, Karen Treadaway, Paul Trembley, Andrew T Trend, Gregg Trenholm, Hayden Trexler, R. Shawn Trezza, Dick Tristao, Karen Trocchia, Gregory Troup, Henry Truant-Tan, Lisa Trudel, Jean-Louis Trump, Stephen Trumpinski-Roberts, Barbara Tsuzawa, Hiroko Tsuzawa, Yukiko Turek, Leslie Turner, Gary Turner, Geri Turner, Jonathan Turner, Rodger Turnshek, Diane Turritttin, Tom Turtledove, Alison Turtledove, Harry Turtledove, Rachel Turtledove, Rebecca Turzillo, Mary A. Tutihasi, R-Laurraine Tuttle, Lisa Uhlenkott, Rochelle Upward, Brian Urany, Nora A Urbanski, Heather Urlichs, Matthias Urguhart, Garth Valada, Christine Valcour, Paul Van, Eric M. Van Asseldonk, Bertie van Belkom, Edo van Belkom, Roberta Van Cleave, Fran Van Cleave, Kent van der Meys, Kay van der Putte. Larry Van Deusen, David J. Van Dine, Penelope Van Dusen, Eric van Eekhout, Greg Van Gelder, Gordon Van Heerden, Carolyn Van Heerden, Francois Van Name, Mark L Van Pelt, James Van Tilburg, Barbara Van Tilburg, Raymond Van Wie, Mike Vande Bunt, Mike Vandenberg, Patricia Ann van't Ent, Jan Vanwey, Timothy K. Varga, Etuska Vargo, Anna Vartanoff, Ellen Vasylkivsky, Olexander Vaughan, J. Arthur Veal, Tom Veale, Donna Ventura, Greg Victor, Barbara H. Viklund, Britt-Louise Virzi, Madeline Virzi, Pat Vogel, Liz Vogel, Robert

Von Buhr, Eric Von Buhr. Maria von Haam, Karen Von Thorn, Alex von Thorn, Merle Voskamp, Edwin Voss, Jaime L Wade, Tess Waggott, John Wainwright, Peter Waite, Keith Waldman, Jacob M Waldrop, Howard Walker, Alta Wall, Julie Walling, Rene Wallner, Martin L Walsh, Michael J. Walsh, Taylor Walther, Charles J. Walton, James Ward, Anthony D Ward, Charles Douglas Ward, Dalroy Ward, Jacqueline M. Ward, John Ward, Michael J. Ward, Susan Wardrope, Jimmy Warner-Lalonde, Peggi Warren, Kenneth T. Warren, Victoria Warrilow, Chris Wassum, Luke Stephen Wassum, Sarah Fairbrother Watkins, Geoffrey A. Watkins, Julie Watts, Peter Wayne, Taral Weasner, Michael Webb, Clay M. Webber, Bob Weber, Eric Weidner, Charles Weidner, Steven Wein, Len Weinberg, David J. Weiner, Andrew Weiner, Toni Weingart, David Weingart, Ellen Weinstein, Diane Weinstein, Lee Weisman, Jacob Weiss, Allan Weiss, Gail B. Weiss, Gail B. (Guest of) Weissinger, Bob Weisskopf, Toni Weist, Jerry Weller, W A Wendland, David Wendland, Joan Wenkel, Stacey Wenskus, Ted Wentworth, K.D. Wentz, David Wesley, Jim Wesling, Chris Wesling, Linda Wessing, Erik Westbrook, Elizabeth Westerfeld, Scott Westra, Caroline Westrup, Stirling Wharton, Ken Wheeler, Andrew Wheeler, Andy

Wheeler, Helen Y. Wheeler, Peter Wheeler, Susan Whitaker, Alexander Whitcher, Christina F White, Brian K. White, Laurine White, Lori White, Nancy J. White, Phyllis Whitley, Eva C Whitman, Marc Whitman, Michael Whitmore, Cheryl Whitmore, Tom Wible, Jim Wickstrom, Doug Widmer, John Widner, Art Wiegand, Thomas Wiener, Robert Wierda, Clark B. Wiesner, Gayle Wilbanks, Caran Wilber, Rick Wilemand, Donald Wilford, David Wilkins, Allen Willett, Edward Willett, Kate Willett, Margaret Anne Willett, Michelle Willett, Paul Willett, Ronnie Willey, Mark Williams, Beverley Williams, Charlotte Williams, Edith Williams, Kim Williams, Laurie Williams, Liz Williams, Ronita Williams, Sheila Williams, Susan L Williams, Walter Jon Willis, Connie Willis, Dorothy A. Willis, Steven J Willis, Walt Willmoth, Mike Willrich, Chris Wills, James M. Wilson, David R. Wilson, Edward Buchan Wilson, Elaine Wilson, John Ross Wilson, Karen Wilson, Kate Wilson, Paul Wilson, Robert C. Wilson, Ross Wilson, Sharry Wingeier, Alan Wingeier, Cathy Winikoff, Steven Winkelbauer, Ramona Winkler, Monica Wise, Mark Wittmeyer, Ben Wix, Richard Woehrle, Sally Wojtowicz, Hania Wolansky, Taras Wolczuk, Vic Wolfe, Ken Wolfe, Martin Wolkoff, Lew

Wollheim, Betsy

Womack, Jack Wong, Andrew Wong, Kent Wong, Peter Wood, Eleanor Wood, Malcolm B. Woodard, Anita Woodard, Paul Woodey, Pat Woods, Joan-Delphyne Woolley, Alan Wooster, Martin M Wooten, Donna Worthen, Shana Wozniak, Joseph Wozniak, Lucinda Wren, Donna Wright, Heather Wu, Frank Wyatt, Linda Wylie, Lisa Wynn, Maureen Yalow, Ben Yamaoka, Ken Yap, Steven Yaskowich, John Yasui, Yukie Yeager, Kathryn A Yeats, Allan Yelle, Janet Yeo, Robert York, Don York. Pat Yost, Patricia Youmans, Brian Young, Blanche A. Young, Cecil L. Young, Ceri Young, Gary Young, Jim Young, Stephanie A Youngstrom, Virginia A Yuan-Innes, Melissa Yule, Kate Zakem, Joel Zaretsky, Graham Zecher, Joel T Zecher Linda Zeddies, Ann Tonsor Zeddies, Tim Zeddies, Timothy C Zellich, Michelle Zellich, Richard W Zelmanovics, Gary Zelych, Grant Zetterberg, Julie Zeve, Steve Ziebarth, Alan Zimmerman, Dan Zimmerschied, Joyce Zipser, Beth Zipser, Mike Zivic, George Zlotnikov, Dan Zvejnieks, Pauline Zygowicz, Diane Zygowicz, Karin L Freas, Frank Kelly Freas, Laura Brodian Glyer, Diana Glyer, Mike Martin, George RR McBride, Parris Robinson, Jeanne Robinson, Spider

Attending Child

Allen, Danielle

Alvord, Nathan Beckett, Megan Biernesser, Thomas Boucher, Christopher Boyke, Elizabeth Boyke, Katherine Boyke, Laura Bridges, Kestrel Brin, Ariana Brin, Ben Brin, Terren Brink, Christopher Campbell, Celena Cespiva, Karel Codina, Ada Codina, Ayn Cooper, William DeMarco, Tim Diggs, Ryan Dorn, Eleanor Drake, Calvin Grant, Tristan Gulledge, Brandon Gulledge, William Hartwell, Peter Hebel, Natasha Hipp, Nicholas Humphrey, Sinead Hunt. Aline Karpierz, Eric Karpierz, Gwen Katz, Caitlin Keisel, Kenny King, Gregory King, Haley Knappenberger, Melissa Koehler, April Anastasia Koehler, August Koren, Sarah Kott, Sam Kraus, Robin Kujawa, Valerie Lane, Aurora Langford, Rowan Lee-Moore, William Lefton, Gabriel Long, Derek Luner, Celia Meltzer, Joseph Merrill, James Merrill, Sean Metz, Brendan Miller, Nicholas A. Miller, William Myers, Samantha Ochs - Thomas, Z. Quinn Pendell, Lirit Ramey, Miranda Ruppel, Corwyn Siegel, Aviva Sinclair, Alexander Skran, Sam Skran, Sarah Smith, Eliora Soltys, Rosalie Stampfel, Lily Stauff, Rowan Stein, Sabrina Fathom Sterling, Mercedes Stevens, Elise Stevens, Ryan Swasey, Lawrence Andrew Thorndike Love, Talis M van Belkom, Luke Ward, Trevor Willett, Alice Willey, Rachel

Ziebarth, Jonathan

Attending Kid-in-Tow

Allen, Ryan Campbell, Alicia Jarvis, Edmund Jarvis, Lillian Lach, Joey Rittenhouse, Meredith Ruppel, Galen Stauff, Corwin Wheeler, Tynan

Supporting

Abbott, Joseph Adams, Elizabeth Adams, John Joseph Adams, Steve Africa, Laura Aines, Steven A. Akin, George D Alderson, Stephen Anderson, Lorelle Archer, Sharon Ashcroft, Dave Aspler, Joseph Atkinson, Michael Thomas Baker, Faith Barnett, Lisa Barrett-Tribull, Jane Baxter, Zara Beals, Odile Bean, Nina Beasley, Craig Beasley, Sarah Beckett, Melissa Beckett, Pat Beckstead, Cathy Beckstead, Patrick Beckstead, Scott Bedrossian, Asbed G Beirne, Michael G. Bennefeld, Elizabeth Wicker Berkwits, Jeff Bilan, Greg Bishop, Willam J Bleaney, Ted Boden, Dana Booth, Skip Bourne, Julie Brand, Antje Brinnitzer, Ann Brown, Denis Paul Burgard, Jill Burns, Grayce Burns, Kim Burns, Mike Bussio, Jamie Cahill, Colleen Campbell, Evan Cantrell, Caitlyn Cantrell, Michael T. Cantrell, Molly Casey, Donal Catoe, Samuel Chalker, Ken Childs, Betsy Childs, Jim Choice, Nancy Clink, Kevin Collins, Gerald Cordell, Russell Cuyler, Alison Dahlin, Ilsook Dahlin, Stephen Dean, Brian Dean, Shirley Dick-Atkinson, Nancy

Dominian, Julie Dougherty, Robert Doyle, Christine Eaker, William Edwards, Nancy Elderkin, Jacqueline T Erickson, Michelle Fairgrove, Rowan Feaster, Deborah Finlay, Charles Forde, Kathleen Gotlib, Richard Grace, Joyce Grace, Peter Grant, Kate Grey, Colin Grey, Emilv Grey, Lauren Grey, Steve Gruenberg, Birgit Guy, Alfred Hackman, Ann Hackman, John Hackman, Laura Hackman, Susan Hall, Andrea Halpern, Marty Hampton, Catherine Harman, R Michael Hartwell, Elizabeth Hathaway, Ross Hawkins, Kit Herndon, Rebecca Heuer, Alan Hightshoe, Carol Hinken, Lawerence R. Holloman, D. Jeannette Jacobs, Matthew Jacobs, Sylvia Jakuszewski, Michal Jensen, Jeff Jenson, Jo Jones, Dottie Judd, Struam Kelberman, Lois Keller, Matt Kelly, Marian C Kempton, Steve Kennedy Jr., Robert S. Kienla, Arthur Kienla, Susan Klotz, Marshall Knuth, Pat Kosak, Don Kosak, Zachary Kremer, Tracy Kuech, Lutz Kufner, Petra Kurz, Susan Lai Robert Landrum, Sharon Larsen, Greg Lawson, Michael Levenson, Laura Levenson, Reed Levinson, Paul Lidral, Bob Lilley, Ernest Long, Elliot Lundrigan, Patrick Mackin, Rob Maughan, Graham Maughan, Ian Maughan, Janet Maughan, Robert McLeod, Alexandria McLeod, Justice Miller, Kate

Miller, Paul Thomas Mitchell. Rose Miyashiro, Randall Mohn, Susan C Monson, Heather Monson, Joe Morehouse, Lyda Morris, Seth Morrison, Catherine Morton, Oliver Moscoe, Ellen Mullican, Cathy Murphy, Brian Murphy, Janice Nelson, Stephen Noble, Michele Oing, Elizabeth Pederson, Michael Peterson, Linda Pietras, John Pilvanis, James Pollard, Victoria Powers, Lois Price, Jan Prinzivalli, Robert Rader, Ric Ragsdale, Lisa Ragsdale, Matthew Redmond. Jeff Reed, April Reeves-Stevens, Garfield Reeves-Stevens, Judith Reich, Ariel Rhyne-Grey, Jill Rice, Pamela Ann Roberts, Steve Robinson, Ron Roode, David Roseman, Karl-Heinz Rosen, Selina Ross, A Joseph Rounds, Shawn Rucker, Lee Ann Russo, John Sandoz, Claude Sanzi, Carol Sanzi, Dawn Sawyer, Alan Schulte, Paula Scott, Melissa Shepherd, Patrick Shivel, Gail Simpson, Neil Sinusas, Felicia Slater, Mike Smith, Brenda Smith, Monty Snook, David Space: The Imagination Station, Attn: S Sperling, Joyce Sperry, John Stage, Jesper Stansbury, Carol Stephens, Ann Steward, Joan Strock, Ian Susser, Joshua Swanson, Anders Swords, June Synk, Lucy Taylor, Barbara Miller Taylor, Jeff Taylor, Ron Tepper, Matthew B Thomson, John Thomson, Sean Tipton, Kimiye

Tull, April Ulvang, Cristina Pulido Ulvang, Tor Christian Victorian SF Conventions Inc., Chairma Vorster, Helen Vozick, Tina Vozick-Levinson, Molly Vozick-Levinson, Simon Wageman, Susan Walker, Arlen Walker, Paul Warden, Doug Wass, John A. Wein, Cherie Weir, Connie West, Robert White, Doreen Williams, Larissa Wolf, Joyce Wong, Wai-Kwong Yamada, Megumi Zrubek, Kim Zrubek, Scott Ackroyd, Justin Ahlers, Michael J Akers, Scott A Aldridge, Arthur J Alexander, Sue Alivojvodic, Robert Allen, Guy Allen, Kurt Allen, Zoanne Alley, Robert Alm, Harry L Alm, Marilyn L Andrews, Craig K Angelus, Tonya Attiya, Yoel Bangs, Mari Bard, Barry Bartlett-Sloan, Marie L. Bartter, Martha Bartz, David Bartz, Laura Batson, Allen Batson, Barbara Beasley, Sally Begley, Laura J Begley, Ted Behrns, Lynn P Bellinger, Michael J Bennett, David Scrymgeour Bennett, Gregory Berg, David M Bicking, David Birkhead, Sheryl Bishop, Elizabeth S. Blass, Joel Block, Aaron Bloom, Jeremy Boardman, John Boettcher, Glen A Bollerud, R. Merrill Boster, Alex Bottorff, Michelle Braun, Alexander John Brigham, Chervl Brind, Mike Brown, James Brown, Steve Wesley Buck, Dora Burstein, Michael A. Burstein, Nomi Butler, Lillian Carpenter, Amy Carroll, Elizabeth Carruthers, Johnny Casey, Coreen

Cashman, Paul W Channell. Carrie Childers, Chad Clarke, Donald R Cohen, Sandy Coleman, Adam Coleman, Howard Cook, Glen Cooper, Peter Copeland, Jeffrey Costello, John H Cowan, Jeremy DM Cox, F. Brett Crockett, Catherine Darden, Anna Davis, Leta Dennis, Jane A Dennis, Scott C Dern, Daniel P DiPalermo, John Donat, John E Doucette, Douglas P Douglas, Robyn Downs, Bill Duane, Kevin A Duarte, Fred Duffy, Richard Duncan, Emma Dyson, Andy Easterbrook, Martin Edell, Joyceanne Eichelberger, Jay Ennis, David Farinelli, Cynthia D Farr, Lea C Fasick, Harry Fellows, Steve Ferris, James Finkelstein, Ed Fitzsimmons, Catherine Fogell, Brandy Fortner, Michael R Foss, Janice Yeager Foss, Karl W Foss, Richard Fox, Crickett Fox, Teresa Frech, James R Freeman, H. Denise Freiberger, Kurt A. Friedman, Beth Friedman, Mitchell Gaillard, Ed Gaillard, Elena Andrews Garey, Terry A Gelfand, Larry Gibson, Adam Michael Glazewski, Nita L. Goodhand, Roy R Griesel, Ann Grosko, Stephen J Haas, Charlotte Haas, Neill ES Haas, Timothy Hall, Becky Harbaugh, Chris Harris, Marlene A Hatcher, Matthew Hatfield, Shelley Hattori, Helen Hauwiller, John Hellinger, Stuart C Hertel, Liana Rebekah Hertz, John Higdon, Lori Hilgartner, C A Hill, Betsy Hill, Wesley

Hills, Timothy G Hinkle, Jessie Hisle, Debra Hisle, Matt Hofmann, Matthias Hofstetter, Joan Hood, Norman L Horton, Rich Hubbard, Rebecca Huibers, Sandra Hulten, Jeffrey Edward Huttner, Friend of Jim in 't Veld, Robert Insley, Peter Jacks, Aaron Paul Jackson, Jennifer Jarvi. Aino L Johnson, Tom Johnson, Tracy E Josserand, Earl Kaplowitz, Rebecca Keck, Melissa M Kelly, Brian SA Kelly, Mark R Kennard, Lynda Kennedy, Peggie Kingsley, Michael Koch, Irvin M Kollenberg, Eric Konoya, Hiroshi Koslow, Alan R Krause, Sydnie Krumme, Chris Kusayanagi, Daisuke Labonville, 'Zanne Langsam, Devra Lazarowitz, Steve Lear, Elizabeth Leger, Matt G Leininger, William H Levin, Rebecca Lewis, Daniel Lewis, Tony Lillian, Guy H Lillian, Rose-Marie Lim, Keith Loomis, Nancy E Lovett, Selina Lucas, Kent Luckett, Dave MacMurdo, Sandy MacNaughton, Mary Madden, J R Mami, Carl Mami, Elaine Mann, Frank P. Mansfield, John Marr, Leon Martin, Mary M Maskell Leslie McCaulla, Herbert McCaulla, Melody McCombs, Cheryl McElligott, Paul McGeachin, William T McIntosh, Melissa McLoud, Mark McNary, Lucinda McNary, Mark Meier, Wes Meier, Wilma Melcher, Andrew Packard Meschke, Karen Mildebrandt, Nancy Moore, Bill Moore, Susan Ross Morgan, Lyn

Morgan, Richard

Morningstar, Chip Morningstar, Janice Moylan, Ken Nachman, Heather Nakashima, Lex Neagle, Robert L Nesbitt, Juanita J Norwood, Rick O'Brien, Terry Ocel, Catherine Ortiz, Mariela Ortiz De Montellano, Lara Ortlieb, Marc Osborne, Elizabeth A. Osier, Henry W. Palmatier. Sue Patterson, Teresa Peters, H R Peterson, Jean Pope, Suzanne F Price, Richard Price, Sharon Price, Tonya D Quinones, Christine Rea, Alan Renton, Neil Reutersward, Anders Rhoades, Michelle Rightor, Michael Ritter, Dan Roberds, Matt Roberts, James F Roehm. Bob Ross-Mansfield, Linda Roth-Whitworth, Mark Ryan, Elizabeth Saklad, James R Sandstrom, Kathe Scheeler, Andrew B. Scheeler, Renee Therese Schultz, Arnette Schutzman, David Scott, Mike Seay, James Shattan, Ariel Sheldon, Amy I. Shelton, Gregory Mark Shepherd, Randall L Shuldiner, Cris Siegel, Jeff Simon, Carl Simonsen, Barbara Skelly, Julie Smith, Dennis L Smith, Dick Smith, Leah Zeldes Smith, Randy Smith, Sam Smith, Theresa A Smith, Vicki Sokola, Joseph Sotomayor, John Spitzer, Jason Spitzer, Sheldon Steele, Mariann Steele, Sandra Steele, Tony Stevko, Victor Stewart, Alan Stewart, David Stornel, Alex Stornel, Cliff Stowell, David M. Strong, Susan Strother-Vien, Leigh Sugg, Alice Sulma, Shawn

Suptic, Mary Suptic, Paul Swanwick, Michael Swanwick, Sean Syms, John Syms, Laura Paskman Szekretar, Martha Taitel, Curtis N Taitel, Joni Tate, James Therou, Phil Thomas, Joan M Thompson, Dan Thompson, Julia Thorsen, John Tihor, Stephen Tolley, Edward J Trebing, Margaret Trebing, Mark Tribley, Nancy Kennedy Trojan, Bill Tucker, Patrick Tucker-Judd, Susan Tyra, Gerry Tyra, Sandra S Uttke, Susan Vaver, Edward Verona, Jeff Virzi. Dennis Walker, Gail Wauford, Melissa Weber, Deborah Weil, David Weiss, Eric Welch, Henry Welch, Letha R Wells, Patty Wenshe, Amy Wenshe, Len West, Joel Whalen, James White, Tara L White-Simons, Kay Whitlock, Mary Whittemore, Thomas N Williams, Chris Williams, Perry Willis, John F. Wilson, Steve C Wilson, Steven R Woldow, Kitty Wolf, Katherine Wood, Shannon Woodward, Carey Zang, Linda C Zeiger, Barry Zielke, Linda Zielke, William H. Ziemer, Eric

Standing Rules for the Governance of the World Science Fiction Society Business Meeting

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Group 1: Meetings

- Rule 1.1: Meeting and Session. The Annual Meeting of the World Science Fiction Society shall consist of one or more Preliminary Business Meetings and one or more Main Business Meetings. The first meeting shall be designated as a Preliminary Business Meeting. All meetings at a Worldcon (preliminary, main, or otherwise) shall be considered a single "session" as defined in the Parliamentary Authority (see section 5.1 of the WSFS Constitution), regardless of whether such gatherings are called "meetings" or "sessions."
- Rule 1.2: Preliminary Business Meeting(s). The Preliminary Business Meeting may not directly reject, pass, or ratify amendments to the Constitution; however, all motions adhering to a Constitutional amendment are in order if otherwise allowed. The Preliminary Business Meeting may not refer a Constitutional amendment to a committee unless the committee's instructions are to report to the Main Business Meeting. The Preliminary Business Meeting may not postpone consideration of a Constitutional amendment beyond the last Preliminary Business Meeting. The Preliminary Business Meeting may not amend a Constitutional amendment pending ratification. The Preliminary Business Meeting may consider any business not expressly forbidden to it by the Standing Rules or expressly reserved to the Main Business Meeting.
- Rule 1.3: Main Business Meeting(s). The Main Business Meeting may reject, pass, or ratify amendments to the Constitution. One Main Meeting shall be also be designated as the Site-Selection Meeting, where Site-Selection business shall be the special order of business.
- Rule 1.4: Scheduling of Meetings. The first Main Meeting shall be scheduled no less than eighteen (18) hours after the conclusion of the last Preliminary Meeting. No meeting shall be scheduled to begin before 10:00 or after 13:00 local time.
- Rule 1.5: Smoking. If smoking is allowed in the place where the Business Meeting is held, the Presiding Officer shall divide the room into smoking and non-smoking sections at the beginning of each meeting.

Group 2: New Business

- Rule 2.1: Deadline for Submission of New Business. The deadline for submission of non-privileged new business to the Business Meeting shall be two (2) hours after the official opening of the Worldcon or eighteen (18) hours before the first Preliminary Meeting, whichever is later. The Presiding Officer may accept otherwise qualified motions submitted after the deadline, but all such motions shall be placed at the end of the agenda.
- Rule 2.2: Requirements for Submission of New Business. Two hundred (200) identical, legible copies of all proposals for non-privileged new business shall be submitted to the Presiding Officer before the deadline in Rule 2.1 unless such proposals are distributed to the attendees at the Worldcon by the Worldcon Committee. All proposals must be legibly signed by a maker and at least one seconder.
- Rule 2.3: Interpretation of Motions. The Presiding Officer shall reject as out of order any proposal or motion that is obviously illegal or hopelessly incoherent. In the absence of the maker of a motion or instructions to the contrary, the Presiding Officer shall be free to interpret the meaning of any motion.
- Rule 2.4: Short Title. Any item of new business considered by the Business Meeting shall contain a short title.

Group 3: Debate Time Limits

- Rule 3.1: Main Motions. The Presiding Officer shall designate the default debate time for main motions. The Business Meeting may, by majority vote, set the initial debate time limit for any motion to any positive whole number of minutes.
- Rule 3.2: Allotment of Time. If a question is divided, the time limits applicable to the question before it was divided shall apply to each portion of the divided question. Debate time shall be allotted equally to each side of a question. Time spent on points of order or other neutral matters arising from a motion shall be divided equally and charged to each side.
- Rule 3.3: Amendments. Debate on all amendments to main motions shall be limited to five (5) minutes, allotted equally to each side. Time spent on debate of an amendment shall be charged against the time for the main motion.
- Rule 3.4: Motions Allowed After Expiration. Motions that adhere to the main motion shall not be out of order because of the expiration of debate time, but shall be undebatable.
- Rule 3.5: Minimum Substantive Debate. If the debate time expires before either or both sides of the question have had an opportunity for substantive debate, any side that has not had such an opportunity shall have two (2) minutes to be used solely for the purpose of substantive debate.

Group 4: Official Papers

- Rule 4.1: Indicating Revisions. The Business Meeting staff shall clearly indicate all changes (including deletions) from the previous year's version when they provide the Constitution and Standing Rules for publication prior to the following Worldcon. However, the failure to indicate such changes shall not affect the validity of the documents.
- Rule 4.2: Corrections. Any correction of fact to the Minutes or to the Constitution or Standing Rules as published should be brought to the attention of the Secretary of the Business Meeting in question and of the next available Business Meeting as soon as they are discovered.
- Rule 4.3: Numbers, Titles, References, and Technical Corrections. Numbers and titles of the various parts of the Constitution and Standing Rules are for the sake of easy reference only. They do not form a substantive part of these documents nor of any motion to amend these documents. The Business Meeting Secretary shall incorporate into these documents appropriate changes as required by newly adopted amendments. When making any such adjustments required by this section, the Business Meeting Secretary shall change article and section numbers, titles, and internal cross-references as necessary to maintain a consistent, parallel structure, which shall not be altered unless the Business Meeting explicitly so directs. The Business Meeting Secretary may change punctuation,

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capitalization, grammar, and other wording in the Constitution and Standing Rules only insofar as such changes clarify meaning and enhance consistency, and only insofar as such changes do not modify the substantive meaning of the documents.

Group 5: Variations of Rules

- Rule 5.1: Nonstandard Parliamentary Authority. If a Worldcon Committee adopts for the governance of the Business Meeting a parliamentary authority other than that specified in the Constitution, the Committee must in timely fashion publish information about how to obtain copies of the authority in question.
- Rule 5.2: Constitutional and Standing Rule Amendments. Motions to Amend the Constitution, to Ratify a Constitutional Amendment, and to Amend the Standing Rules shall be considered ordinary main motions, except as otherwise provided in the Standing Rules or Constitution. An object to consideration shall not be in order against ratification of a constitutional amendment.
- Rule 5.3: Postpone Indefinitely. The motion to Postpone Indefinitely shall not be allowed.
- Rule 5.4: Amend; Secondary Amendments. Secondary amendments (amendments to amendments) are not allowed except when the primary amendment is to substitute.
- Rule 5.5: Previous Question. A person speaking to a motion may not immediately offer a motion to close debate. The motion for the Previous Question (also known as the motion "close debate," "call the question," and "vote now") shall not be in order when there is less than one minute of debate time remaining, nor when either or both sides of the debate have yet to speak to a question. Before voting on the motion for the Previous Question, the Presiding Officer shall, without debate, ask for a show of hands of those persons who still wish to speak to the matter under consideration.
- Rule 5.6: Lay on the Table. The motion to Lay on the Table shall require a two-thirds (2/3) vote for adoption.

Rule 5.7: Adjournment. The incidental main motion to adjourn sine die shall not be in order until all Special and General Orders have been discharged.

Rule 5.8: Suspension of Rules. Rules protecting the rights of absentees, including this rule, may not be suspended.

Group 6: Mark Protection Committee Elections

- Rule 6.1: Nominations. Nominations for election to the Mark Protection Committee shall be allowed from the floor at each Preliminary Business Meeting. To be listed on the ballot, each nominee must submit to the Secretary of the Business Meeting the nominee's consent to nomination and the nominee's current region of residence. A nominee shall be ineligible if the nominee could not be elected due to the regional residence restrictions. The deadline for submitting such consent to nomination shall be set by the Secretary.
- Rule 6.2: Elections. Elections to the Mark Protection Committee shall be a special order of business at a designated Main Business Meeting. Voting shall be by written preferential ballot with write-in votes allowed. Votes for write-in candidates who do not submit written consent to nomination and region of residence to the Presiding Officer before the close of balloting shall be ignored. The ballot shall list each nominee's name and region of residence. The first seat filled shall be by normal preferential ballot procedures. After a seat is filled, votes for the elected member and for any nominee who is now ineligible due to regional residence restrictions shall be eliminated before conducting the next ballot. This procedure shall continue until all seats are filled. Should there be any partial-term vacancies on the committee, the partial-term seat(s) shall be filled after the full-term seats have been filled.

Group 7: Miscellaneous

- Rule 7.1: Question Time. During the Site-Selection Meeting, fifteen (15) minutes of program time shall be allocated to each future seated Worldcon committee. During the first five (5) minutes, each committee may make such presentations as they wish. The remaining time shall be allocated for questions to be asked about that committee's Worldcon. Questions may be submitted in writing at any previous meeting. Questions submitted in writing shall have priority over other questions if the person who submitted the question is present and still wishes to ask the question. No person may ask a second question as long as any person wishes to ask a first question. Questions are limited to fifteen (15) seconds and responses to two (2) minutes. If time permits at the Site-Selection Meeting, committees bidding for the right to host any Worldcon whose selection will take place in the next calendar year shall be allocated five (5) minutes of program time to make such presentations as they wish. The time limits in this rule may be modified by majority vote.
- Rule 7.2: Dilatory Actions; Misuse of Inquiries. The sole purpose of a "point of information" or "parliamentary inquiry" is to ask the Presiding Officer for an opinion of the effect of a motion or for guidance as to the correct procedure to follow. The Presiding Officer shall treat as dilatory any attempts to circumvent the rules of debate under the guise of points of information, parliamentary inquiries, or other queries and requests.
- Rule 7.3: Counted Vote. The Presiding Officer shall take a counted vote upon the request of ten percent (10%) of those members attending the meeting.
- Rule 7.4: Carrying Business Forward. Motions other than Constitutional amendments awaiting ratification may be carried forward from one year to the next only by being postponed definitely or by being referred to a committee.
- Rule 7.5: Continuing Resolutions. Resolutions of continuing effect ("continuing resolutions") may be repealed or amended by majority vote of subsequent Business Meetings without notice, and shall be automatically repealed or amended by applicable amendments to the Constitution or Standing Rules or by conflicting resolutions passed by subsequent Business Meetings.
- Rule 7.6: Committees. All committees are authorized to organize themselves in any lawful manner and to adopt rules for the conduct of their business, which may include conducting balloting by mail and limiting debate, subject to any contrary provisions of the Constitution, the Standing Rules, or instructions given to the committee by the Business Meeting.
- Rule 7.7: Nitpicking and Flyspecking Committee. The Business Meeting shall appoint a Nitpicking and Flyspecking Committee. The Committee shall:
 - (1) Maintain the list of Rulings and Resolutions of Continuing Effect
 - (2) Codify the Customs and Usages of WSFS and of the Business Meeting.
- Rule 7.8: Worldcon Runners' Guide Editorial Committee. The Business Meeting shall appoint a Worldcon Runners' Guide Editorial Committee. The Committee shall maintain the Worldcon Runners' Guide, which shall contain a compilation of the best practices in use among those who run Worldcons.

The above copy of the Standing Rules for the Governance of the WSFS Business Meeting is hereby Certified to be True, Correct, and Complete: Kevin Standlee, Chairman and Pat McMurray, Secretary - 2002 WSFS Business Meeting



AUGUST 22-24 2003

METRO TORONTO CONVENTION CENTRE 255 Front St. W. (Next to Skydome in downtown Toronto)

